Daily Report
Latin America

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Cuba

Rodriguez Departs for South-South Meeting

FL291430 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has departed for Geneva to participate in the installation of the South-South Commission, which is presided over by Julius Nyerere.

Over the next 3 years, the commission will study possibilities for more sustained contributions in defending the economy and development of these countries. The commission is composed of 25 people from southern countries who do not represent the government and are participating individually.

Polish Justice Minister Arrives for Talks

FL281804 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] Polish Justice Minister Lech Domeracki arrived in our country today. He is fulfilling an invitation made by his Cuban counterpart, Juan Escalona Reguera, member of the PCC Central Committee.

During his stay in Cuba, the Polish leader will hold working meetings at the Justice Ministry, the Supreme People's Tribunal, and the Attorney General's Office. He will also visit Santiago de Cuba.

Camacho Aguilera Meets With Soviet Minister

FL291812 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Text] Julio Camacho Aguilera, member of the PCC Politburo and ambassador to the USSR, met today with Vladimir Brezhnev, Soviet minister of transport construction.

The two leaders met in a cordial and friendly atmosphere and discussed matters related to the cooperation the Soviet Union provides Cuba in the transportation field. In particular, they exchanged opinions on the studies being developed by the two parties to construct a metro in Havana City.

Havana on Tense U.S.-Panamanian Relations

PA280138 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Sep 87

["Our America" commentary read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] The open support given by U.S. Embassy officials in Panama to the right-wing maneuvers to foil the implementation of the Panama Canal Treaties allows us to state that the Panamanian-U.S. relations are at their lowest level in many years. The Civic Crusade began its activities approximately 2 months ago—fully supported by the U.S. Government—with the intention of destabilizing the government and installing a new one that would protect the reactionary sectors' interests. The Reagan Administration's interventionist policy has not yielded ground. In fact, the U.S. Embassy's commercial adviser, [title as heard] David Miller, was arrested 15 days ago when he participated in an antigovernment demonstration organized by right-wing sectors.

Before we continue, it is appropriate to mention that the Civic Crusade's leadership has weakened because the private enterprises which supported it have lost sizeable amounts of money due to the frequently-organized strikes. The strikes dealt a harsh blow to the Civic Crusade because the strikes received scant support from important industrial and banking sectors.Practically no support was given by the commerce and services sector, meaning the business sector which represents the Civic Crusade's main backers.

The new situation was tacitly accepted by Civic Crusade spokesman Carlos Gonzalez de la Lastra, who announced last week a change of strategy which does not rule out a request for more direct U.S. support. Anyway, Panamanian-U.S. bilateral relations have become noticeably tense, particularly after approximately 120 U.S. soldiers were transferred from their bases near the interoceanic canal to the Yankee Embassy. The appearance of these U.S. soldiers, who carried weapons and combat gear, was decribed by Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia as an open and rude provocation, and is considered a flagrant violation of the canal treaties.

Likewise, the newspaper *Critica* recalled that Article 15 of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties regulates the deployment of U.S. soldiers within Panamanian territory. The appropriate permit must be requested and the U.S. soldiers must travel unarmed and with a Defense Forces escort. It is evident that Panamanian-U.S. relations have become more and more complicated because, in addition to its open support for the right-wing sectors, the United States has now incurred in a military provocation. All this is clearly part of a plot to oust the Panamanian authorities, foil the canal treaties implementation, and divert Panama from its independent foreign policy guidelines. The nation currently faces a difficult situation in which the rallying cry Not A Single Step Backward has become particularly important.

Havana on Reopening of Nicaragua's LA PRENSA

PA251238 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Sep 87

["Our America" commentary read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] To fulfill one of the points of the 7 August Guatemala City agreement, the Nicaraguan Government has decided to reopen the opposition newspaper *La Prensa*, which has been closed since June 1986. On that date, the Sandinist government ordered the closing of *La*

Prensa because it was regarded as an instrument of the U.S. Embassy in Managua and of the Reagan administration's propaganda campaign to overthrow the revolution.

One must recall that the U.S. Congress on that occasion had approved $100 million in aid for the counterrevolutionaries. *La Prensa* took advantage of this to start a propaganda campaign in favor of the contra forces.

We can say that with the decision to reopen *La Prensa*, the Nicaraguan Government has engaged in a risky mission, because the conditions that caused the newspaper's closing continue. In this regard, we can say U.S. aid for the mercenaries not only continues, but it has tended to increase and will continue to do so, especially if Congress decides to approve a new request from the President. One must also take into account that after the Esquipulas II agreements were approved, the Republican administration began up a new offensive to prevent the implementation of the agreements.

When *La Prensa* was closed a little over a year ago, people in Managua said the functions of the opposition newspaper were similar to those of the Chilean newspaper *El Mercurio* when the military coup against the government was being prepared. Despite all this, the Sandinist government has assumed this risk and again becomes the first Central American country to fulfill the agreements signed by the five Central American presidents, who committed themselves to keeping open news media for all ideological groups without censorship.

One must also say that *La Prensa's* reopening takes place in difficult times for Sandino's fatherland, which is not only suffering from foreign aggression but is also facing an internal opposition.

The Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference has issued a message criticizing the actions carried out by the local peace commissions, the amnesty, and the Patriotic Military Service. In each one of these points, demands exceed what was stipulated in the Guatemala accord. This will surely lead to a confrontation with the government and will make the peace-seeking work more difficult.

Despite all obstacles, Nicaragua has taken the initiative in fulfilling the agreements to establish peace in the region.

Peru's Water Company Workers On Strike

PA251242 Havana International Service in Quechua 0000 GMT 17 Sep 87

[Text] Workers of the national water and sewage enterprise are on a 48-hour strike demanding renewal of their collective agreements to request salary increases. After analyzing the situation, the government decided that the strike is illegal. However, the workers said that if the demand for higher wages is not met, they will go on strike for an indefinite period.

Fidel Castro Diaz-Balart on Nuclear Energy

FL251630 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Cuba has urged member countries of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], in its 31st conference held in Vienna, to unite efforts and wills to turn nuclear technologies into instruments of well-being, wealth, and development for all the people. Fidel Castro Diaz-Balart, executive secretary of the Cuban Atomic Energy Commission, underscored the importance of beginning—together with nuclear disarmament—to open nuclear energy technology to countries that are currently behind in that strategic link to the world of the 21st century.

Railroad Accident Reported Near Fomento

FL241811 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] A railroad accident occurred yesterday near the city of Fomento. An auxiliary car and two wagons carrying crude oil plunged into the Sipiabo River. Some 60 tons of the fuel spilled over and part of it caught fire. The blaze was put out swiftly thanks to the prompt action taken by the firefighting and prevention forces. The appropriate authorities are investigating the causes of the accident, estimating the damages and contamination levels.

Barbados

Summit Ends, Debt Relief Measures Needed

FL251500 Bridgetown CANA in English 0028 GMT 25 Sep 87

[By Sandra Baptiste]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Sep 24,(CANA)—Commonwealth finance ministers, meeting here over the past two days, have acknowledged that middle-income debtor countries like those in the Caribbean, were deserving of special debt-relief measures.

They have also renewed their call for an end to protectionism and for some reforms in the major international financial institutions, according to an end-of-conference communique.

Conference chairman, Barbados Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford, said developing countries had a much better chance of fighting problems affecting their economic growth with the backing of the influential Commonwealth grouping.

He described the discussions on debt, which dominated the meeting, as significant.

"...While debt relief was of vital importance for the debt-distressed low-income countries, major problems were also faced by some low and middle-income countries for whom a high proportion of external debt was held by international financial institutions," the communique stated.

The ministers agreed that the CARICOM debt strategy initiative presented by Jamaica's prime minister, Edward Seaga, should be given "serious examination" by the international community.

"The proposal provided for a mechanism which addressed specifically the problems of countries which were not appropriately covered either by the Baker plan or the Lawson initiative," the communique said.

The finance ministers from the Commonwealth's 49 member states expressed disappointment that private lending to heavily-indebted middle-income countries had not materialised to the extent envisaged under the American Baker initiative.

The commercial banks, the finance ministers said, had shown "great reluctance" to participate in new concerted lending.

The meeting strongly recommended to creditor countries for approval the initiatives presented by Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson to help low-income countries, particularly those in the sub-Saharan Africa.

In fact, Commonwealth secretary-general, Shridath Ramphal, said Lawson's proposals which call for a reduction on interest rates on loans, the conversion of loans to grants, and extend the repayment period, was one of the highpoints of the two-day finance parley.

The finance ministers emphasised that the debt problem was a question of increased resources to support growth-oriented adjustment.

The finance ministers concurred that slow growth in the world economy had "prolonged uncertainty in foreign exchange markets, weakened business confidence, encouraged protectionist sentiment and inhibited expansionary policies."

The ministers further expressed concern about the "serious deterioration" in and poor prospects for financial flows to developing countries and about the current levels of official development assistance. Ramphal described the negative flows to the developing world as "indecent".

The meeting also noted that foreign investment was also falling.

The London-based Commonwealth Secretariat was urged to examine ways in which Commonwealth capital-importing developing countries could be assisted in improving their access to private capital.

In particular they requested the secretary-general to study the possibilities of facilitating increased private flows, including venture capital and portfolio investment, to Commonwealth countries.

The finance ministers also called on the World Bank to ensure that countries are not "prematurely graduated"—cut-off from funds—and urged that the graduation process took into account "individual country circumstances, including the ability to tap alternative sources of finance".

The meeting welcomed the increased attention that the World Bank was giving to the social costs of adjustment, but suggested it pay greater attention to the fundamental role of women in economic development.

The ministers stressed the urgency of a substantial enlargement of the International Monetary Fund's structural adjustment facility emphasised the importance of improved access to the IMF's compensatory financing facility.

The Commonwealth secretary-general said he was particularly "heartened" about the commitment by member countries to increase the resources of the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation (CFTC), especially announcements of pledges from Nigeria and India.

Haiti

Namphy Returns From U.S., Makes Speech

FL292218 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1715 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Speech by General Henri Namphy, president of the National Government Council, upon his arrival to Port-au-Prince International Airport on 27 September—live]

[Text] Friends, Haitian people, it was you who went to Miami [an allusion to Namphy's first trip abroad, in November of 1986. Once again, it was you who went to New York. You went to the United Nations, the forum where all nations come together. At the United Nations every nation has the right to speak. Even though our views may differ, when at the United Nations we each show respect for the others.

We were first noticed by the world when we won our independence. We have now re-entered the international scene—and through the front door—in order to make ourselves heard. And we told so much truth that the world, through the various delegations present, came forth to salute you and to compliment you on what you are doing in your country today. This time, they have realized that things that used to happen here are now over with for good. That we have put an end to those things and this is irreversible. Those things will never be allowed to occur again. We have undertaken this march toward democracy. The foundations we are setting up are solid. No one will ever again be able to tear them down.

We won't keep you long. However, Haitian people, I want you to know that you were the ones who went to the United Nations. That you were the ones who experienced these things that you sent me to do. We carried out our mission properly and with dignity. In spite of everything that the press has been known to say, this time, Haitian people, the truth came out—and at an international forum. No one can just run off at the mouth anymore. Everyone will now have to tuck his tail between his legs. The time to play games is over. It is now time to take care of important matters. [applause]

Yes, this problem we have is no big deal! It has always been there—ever since our beginnings. This matter has been covered by difficulty and ambiguity since the beginning. The cutting was not done properly.

There is the cake. Everyone wants it. Everyone is fighting over it and throwing themselves at it. But if we do this, we are running the risk of squashing the cake!

Why don't we go about cutting it differently? Why, instead, don't we all get together and try to bake a huge cake? We'll put it in the oven and it will rise. It might even become as big as Haiti. And then, each person will get his portion, his share—and there will be no battles, no fighting. The cutting will be done in an orderly and disciplined manner. And then, you'll see, you will say: Hey, wait a minute! Isn't this democracy?

And only then will we really have the chance to say what we are in the habit of saying. Then, on 7 February, I will say to you: Long live the Haitian nation, forever united! Thank you. [applause]

Committee Urges Formation Of Vigilante Groups

FL252146 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] We have a press release from the National Committee of the Congress of Democratic Movements [Conacom]. Conacom says: Upon noting that all the protests and denunciations made by the people have not prevented the death squads from spreading fear among the population at will, Conacom issues the following watchwords to its member organizations and to the entire population of Haiti: Reorganize and reinforce all the neighborhood committees [komite katye yo]. This is due to the campaign of terror that is spreading all over Haiti—a situation which establishes a climate in which neither urban nor rural residents can live in peace—and in view of the attack that the enemy of the country is continuing to wage against peasant groups, particularly the uncertainty the terrorists want to establish among the Papaye peasant group and the population of Savannette.

Conacom issues this watchword to each neighborhood in Port-au-Prince, provincial towns, and communal sections. The committes are to form several vigilante groups of at least 5 to 10 people each. These vigilante groups are to patrol the neighborhoods and the areas in which they live from 2000 to 0500 hours. The groups will patrol in shifts. The duties of these vigilante groups are to identify all unfamiliar persons who enter the area and to question them without striking out at them unless it is a legitimate matter of self-defense. They will carry pen and paper to jot down their statements, get license plate numbers, and write down the color and make of vehicles entering the area. They will take into custody anyone caught flagrante delicto stealing or committing crimes. These people will be turned over to the police. The vigilantes will call journalists to inform the press. In each neighborhood and area, the vigilantes will establish an alarm system with the cooperation of the residents. Conch shells, whistles, pots, pans or any other kind of noise-producing instrument may be used in alerting the entire neighborhood to defend itself.

The population's cooperation is indispensable in order to successfully maintain security in the different areas and neighborhoods. In order to accomplish this, after the population or the neighborhood committees have set up the patrol groups, they must contact, motivate, and seek the cooperation of all residents and quickly set up a security and alarm system. They should run a few drills to be sure that the security and alert system works well.

Conacom says, further on, that the security brigades must identify all criminals and terrorists that live in the different areas. Their comings and goings must be watched and reported, and the license plate numbers of vehicles that visit them must be watched and reported. The public must be informed through the press.

Conacom reminds all citizens of Article 268.1 of the constitution which says that any citizen may possess a weapon at home for self-defense. The weapon must be declared to the police.

Article 24.2 says that if a person is not caught red-handed, he cannot be arrested or put in jail. There must be a warrant from the authorities for his arrest. Article 24.2 says that except for people caught flagrante delicto, no arrest warrant can be issued between 1800 and 0600 hours, nor can they search anyone's residence between those hours.

The note is signed, for Conacom, by Jean-Claude Bajeux and Victor Benoit.

United Front Meets with Colonel Hyppolite

FL252230 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Excerpts] The United Front of Gonaives met the day before yesterday with different civic and religious authorities in Gonaives and with a representative of Colonel Gambetta Hyppolite. However, the colonel's representative would make no statements because he said the colonel would be attending the meeting; but the colonel never showed up. Therefore, the United Front yesterday requested a meeting with Col Hyppolite, who was not present at the 23 September meeting during which they discussed the climate of insecurity that has been reigning over Gonaives for more than three weeks now.

The second meeting was attended by the colonel, various prominent citizens of Gonaives, and different human rights figures, such as Gerard Gourgue, Joseph Lafontant, and others. The purpose of the meeting was to seek a solution to the destruction occurring in Gonaives.

After much discussion, it appears that the participants in the meeting were dissatisfied, because, they said, nothing came of the meeting. It seems to have been adjourned until a meeting in the not-too-distant future can be held.

Press correspondents out of Gonaives also reported that Col Hyppolite said that the press often gave erroneous information.

Reporter Jean Laurent Nelson spoke with (Lucien Bardot), a prominent citizen from Gonaives. Let's listen to what he has to say about that situation.

[Begin recording] [(Bardot)) [Passage omitted] For his part, the colonel pointed out a few problems. He said that it was not the army that started the disorder, the shooting. He said that most of the shooting done by the army was in response to the people who are armed in the city, such as the followers of Jean Tatoune, whom he called General Jean Tatoune. He implied that those people are to a great extent responsible for the terror in the city. That is his interpretation. [passage omitted]

We agreed on the principle that we must continue working toward a climate of security, because if we cannot establish a climate of security, we do not think that elections can be held normally in Haiti.

[Nelson] Mr (Bardot), since you were at the meeting, what guarantee is the colonel giving in his capacity as commanding officer of the military department of the Artibonite?

[(Bardot)] For you [as heard], he has not yet given any guarantees at all. The problem he brought up is that, for him, in order for there to be security, Jean Tatoune, Joe Lucie, and (Flauvel) [not further identified] must be arrested. For example, he asked those present to what extent they could help him accomplish this task. And, as you know, the answer given was (?that) no one there was a police informer. [passage omitted]

[Nelson] If I understand you correctly, the colonel implied that the insecurity in Gonaives will not end, cannot end, until they have captured the men in question.

[(Bardot]) Essentially. But, at the same time, it was implied during the dialogue that talks must be continued with the democratic sector to reach a solution. So I don't think the matter is closed.

[Nelson] So, if I understand you correctly, the colonel asked the population to turn in the men in question, should the population know where they are.

[(Bardot) Yes. That is exactly what he asked. [passage omitted] [end recording]

People Denounce Army Plan Against Communities

FL252259 Port-au-Prince Radio Haiti-Inter in Creole 1000 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Excerpts] More than 700 people in the central plateau have taken a stand on the situation of the peasant movements and various other organizations being hassled in the Hinche area. (Prospere Therisme) is going to talk to us about this. [passage omitted]

[(Therisme)] [in progress]...sent a press release dated 20 September 1987, in which they say: We members of the small church communities in the parish of Hinche denounce before the entire nation a big plot which the army is preparing in order to eliminate the small church

communities, the Misyon Alfa centers, and our peasant groups. Where are the small church communities, the Alfa centers, and the peasant groups? All over the place, especially in remote rural areas. That is why they use people on site, such as rural section chiefs, assistants and other people whom they have prepared to execute this plan.

We have let them know that we discovered their game. We state emphatically that they will not get away with the said Macoute maneuver (?in a single parish) in our diocese. We know full well the purpose of this is to prevent the population from participating in the coming elections, so they can re-enact the Macoute coup of 1957. We ask all sectors targeted as victims by that plan, such as Misyon Alfa, the Peasants Group for Justice and Peace [Groupman Peyizan Jistis ak Lape], and youth organizations to remain in solidary with us.

We ask all other parishes in the diocese to hasten to join the struggle in order to thwart that macoute plan, so that people will not fall into another Jean-Rabel, Raboteau, Saint-Marc, and so forth.

The note is signed by 749 members of the small church communities. [passage omitted]

CEP Calls for Nation's Support in Elections

FL242235 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Excerpts] The Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] has launched a second appeal calling for the nation's support in holding proper elections in Haiti. We will read you some excerpts of the message. It is very long, and we will not have time to read it to you in its entirety.

The CEP says: Haitians, the time has come for you to demand your rights, in order that you may live as a people truly alive. [passage omitted]

The CEP asks all Haitians to take advantage of the opportunity they have been given for the first time, to exercise their sovereignty, and elect the leaders they desire. The CEP asks the nation to use its ballots, at the appropriate moment, to open the way to supervision and participation. [passage omitted]

There must be an end to such things as fraudulent elections and injustice, says the CEP. May the best candidates win!, the CEP says. [passage omitted]

Democratic Unity Group Grants Conference

FL242211 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Excerpt] The Confederation for Democratic Unity [KID] held a press conference yesterday morning at its offices on Rue Champ de Mars.epresentatives of the Federation of Small Landowners and Farmers of the Artibonite, Artibonite Youth in Favor of Development and against Arbitrariness, Socio-Cultural Club of the Artibonite, and the Labadie Youth Movement discussed the criminal acts they claim are being committed in Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite.

According to the youths, because of the upcoming elections, the Macoute sector seems to be unhappy with the youths efforts to mobilize the peasants in the Artibonite area. [passage with indistinct portions omitted]

Finance Minister Views 1986 Economic Growth

FL291530 Bon Aire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Text] Haiti's finance minister says his country's economy grew slightly last year, due in part to a balanced budget. Mr Leslie Delatour says a tax cut and a reduction in government spending also played a part in the economic growth.

The finance minister spoke in Washington at the Cato Institute which concerns itself with social and economic issues. Mr. Delatour will also take part in a conference of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund while he's in Washington.

The finance minister says Haiti will add to its revenues by collecting business taxes that were overlooked during the rule of the Duvalier family.

Government Gives $2 Million to Sugar Company

FL242151 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Excerpt] The Haitian Government has given $2 million to the Haytian American Sugar Company [Hasco]—Haiti's sugar mill in Port-au-Prince to permit Hasco to counter the many economic problems they are confronting. We have learned that this money has permitted a small decrease in the price of sugar, dropping from $24 to $17 dollars a sack.

This money will permit company personnel to resume activities in preparation for the next sugar harvest. Some 300-400 people are now repairing the Hasco sugar mill. This gesture came from the government constitutes a sort of palliative for the many problems Hasco is facing, particularly from consumers because the price of local sugar was higher per sack than that from the neighboring Dominican Republic. [passage omitted]

Jamaica

P.J. Patterson Reelected Chairman of PNP

FL291415 Bridgetown CANA in English 2323 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Sept 28, CANA—Former Jamaican foreign minister, P.J. Patterson, was Sunday re-elected chairman of the opposition Peoples National Party (PNP).

The party chairman is selected by the 200-odd members of the National Executive Council (NEC).

Sunday's NEC meeting was the first since the PNP annual conference a week earlier.

Patterson, the PNP's shadow production and planning minister, has been party chairman since 1983.

The party is led by former prime minister, Michael Manley.

Entry Ban, Deportation Face Drug Smugglers
FL252040 Bridgetown CANA in English 1818 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Sept 25, CANA—Jamaica says it will deport and put an entry ban on foreigners convicted here of drug smuggling.

The minister of national security, Errol Anderson, said on Thursday that he had asked the police to begin providing him with lists of foreigners convicted of drug offences and that the same information be transmitted to relevant international narcotics agents.

Anderson said that as soon as he received the list he would start signing exclusion orders to ban any foreigner convicted of breaching the dangerous drugs act and/or the customs act from landing in Jamaica again.

Some 782 foreigners were arrested here in 1986 for drug offences, but it was not immediately known how many were convicted.

Jamaica is a major producer of marijuana and foreigners often attempt to smuggle quantities of the drug out of the country while returning home.

Anderson said that a number of foreigners who broke the drug laws had the chance to do so again as they were often not barred from re-entering the island.

Jamaica, under pressure from Washington, has cracked down hard over the past three years on the marijuana trade and is beginning to give similar focus to cocaine.

PRI Criticizes Plans for U.S. 'Institute'

PA290106 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 22 Sep 87 p 5

[Article by Mario Alberto Reyes]

[Text] PRI and left-wing opposition deputies have criticized plans by a group of people from the northern region to create a Mexican-United States institute to publicize political irregularities in Mexico, and spread rightist beliefs. This, they said, will harm the country's prestige and open the door for foreign intervention.

Guerrero State Deputy Pindaro Uriostegui said that this kind of relationship between Mexican right-wing groups and U.S. groups is not new, but has been around for years in order to place the conservatives in power in Mexico.

This kind of attitude, Uriostegui added, should be rejected by all patriotic Mexicans. In addition, he said, an in-depth investigation should be started so the Mexican Government can take strong measures against traitors to the fatherland.

Pindaro Uriostegui said that the northern right-wing fanatics have called for violence to fight the ruling party.

Moreover, Mexican Socialist Party Deputy Eduardo Valle Espinosa believes that the creation of the institute, in which the Nuevo Leon Electoral Democratic Army is participating, is an absurd measure that opens the door for CIA intervention in Mexico. We Mexicans should analyze and resolve our own problems and not discuss them abroad, he added.

Eduardo Valle commented that this institution could be the idea of evil people, ignorant of our history, or perhaps of naive people. The fact is that this does not help the country at all.

Gonzalo Altamirano Dimas, coordinator for PAN [National Action Party] deputies, denied that the so-called Electoral Democratic Army is a branch of the PAN. He also denied that Javier Livas, a leader of that group who was active in Nuevo Leon after the recent state elections, is a member of the PAN.

El Salvador

Duarte To Talk Only With FMLN Comanders

PA300454 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 30 Sep 87

[Passages in quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte today said he will talk with the guerrillas only if the five FMLN commanders are present at the talks. He said the presence of the top guerrilla leaders is necessary for a positive dialogue according to the provisions of the peace treaty signed by the Central American presidents. The meeting between the government and the rebels is scheduled for Sunday, 4 October, at the apostolic nuncio's office in San Salvador.

[Duarte] "There is only one topic to be discussed, the Esquipulas II plan. This is what I have invited the guerrillas to discuss. If they accept something as simple as this, then I will wait for them on Sunday if the five commanders also come. These commanders can make decisions; the diplomatic representatives cannot. If the five commanders come to the meeting, then the president of the Republic will be there with the defense minister to talk. If the commanders do not come and instead send someone like Cienfuegos, who came last time, then something similar to what happened then will happen again. The rebels said his remarks were false. At the next meeting, [words indistinct] as you may remember, those who attended were third- or fourth-level people. Therefore, I am not going to attend unless I am going to speak with those who really give orders to the guerrillas."

During another part of the impromptu news conference, Duarte denied that the CIA had given him large sums of money, as reported by a U.S. journalist and published locally.

[Duarte] "I have never been, nor will I ever be, under the financial control of anyone."

Defense Minister Eugenio Vides Casanova, for his part, rejected Msgr Gregorio Rosa Chavez' assertion that the Armed Forces do not admit their past errors, as in the Las Hojas case.

[Vides Casanova] "It is not true that the Armed Forces are obstructing the investigation into these events. We are supporting law and order in our country as part of the democratic process, and you may be sure there is a higher degree of maturity because we have in fact learned to recognize our mistakes, and we are trying to find solutions to those problems that might cause dissent."

Concerning the rumors of Colonel Reynaldo Lopez Huila's resignation, he said that, for the time being, the only one to decide on this matter will be the president of the Republic.

[Vides Casanova] "At this time there is nothing concrete. Sometimes, when we have had a chance to discuss things, many of the members of the General Staff have placed our posts at the [president's] disposal. We have done this on repeated occasions, and it behooves the president, in his role as commander in chief of the Armed Forces, to have the last word. But I can assure you that Col Lopez Huila has worked dynamically and efficiently. He is a man I respect very much, and I recognize all he has done in support of the country's public security.

[Reporter] "Do you support the situation of Colonel [name indistinct]?

[Vides Casanova] "The Armed Forces cannot support individuals; it has to support the Armed Forces. We will allow this current process to continue so that justice will prevail in the country."

Arias Hosting Government-Rebel Meeting

PA300343 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 1900 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Report by Marco Antonio Guevara from the office of Deputy Foreign Minister Roberto Viera in San Salvador]

[Text] The Salvadoran Government and guerrillas are meeting today in the presence of Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, prior to the dialogue to take place Sunday in San Salvador.

Deputy Foreign Minister Roberto Edmundo Viera has told the media that the Salvadoran Government had wanted to keep this meeting secret, but Ruben Zamora announced it during a telephone interview with a radio station.

[Begin Viera recording] I hope that there will be no problem and that operational problems can be resolved in this meeting. The government wants the dialogue. We are not going to this preparatory meeting to boycott it. On the contrary, we are going to the preparatory meeting because they asked for a preparatory meeting, and we are participating to make the dialogue viable. [end recording]

Ruben Zamora told Radio Cadena YSU by telephone that this meeting would be taking place in a Central American country and that Eduardo Calles, Jorge Villacorta, and Salvador Samayoa would represent the FMLN-FDR.

Viera said that Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes and Dr Fidel Chavez Mena are traveling from El Salvador.

[Begin Viera recording] This private meeting was requested by the fronts. It was private. We are going to participate only to see the operational mechanisms for holding the dialogue. Since they have made the meeting

public, and since the situation could become complicated in this private meeting, we want to state the government's firm decision to hold the dialogue on 4 October. [end recording]

Deputy Minister Viera said he knew nothing about the possible agenda for the dialogue. Regarding a truce, he said that the guerrillas are continuing their attacks and that the Armed Forces have the constitutional obligation to defend the country.

Regarding other subjects, such as the possible resignation of Deputy Defense Minister Colonel Reynaldo Lopez, Viera said he knew nothing about it.

[Begin Viera recording] I believe you want to mix things up, right? I am simply telling you that I do not know about that. Regarding the cabinet, it is the president who makes the appointments. Regarding the dialogue, we are on this path and we are pushing aside the problems that arose today. [end recording]

Zamora Views FMLN-FDR Expectations in Talks

PA292338 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Telephone interview with FDR Vice President Ruben Zamora at an undisclosed location by correspondent David Marciano Rivas; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Marciano] This is FDR Vice President Ruben Zamora, who will tell us about the results of the meeting with Msgr Arturo Rivera y Damas, the mediator of the dialogue. The meeting was held on Saturday in Panama City. As the communique issued by the FDR Executive Committee and the FMLN General Command in Panama informed the country, the Salvadoran guerrillas accepted the proposal by the government of Jose Napoleon Duarte to hold a meeting to prepare for the dialogue for peace to be held on Sunday, 4 October, in our capital. Ruben Zamora talks to us about this matter.

[Zamora] An FMLN-FDR delegation met with Msgr Rivera y Damas, the mediator of the dialogue. At that meeting we wanted to begin immediate preparations for the talks on 4 October. However, Msgr Rivera y Damas conveyed the Salvadoran Government stance favoring a meeting between delegates from the government and our fronts in order to prepare for the 4 October dialogue. This is how we feel about that. For the sake of greater expediency, we would have preferred to settle all logistical matters—and there are not too many of them, by the way—directly through the mediator. However, if the Salvadoran Government insists that we hold a preparatory meeting to handle operational matters, our fronts are willing to accept that.

In this respect, I think that early next week, rather, this week, the FMLN and the FDR will meet with government delegates to discuss logistical matters.

[Marciano] Will the meeting be held outside the country?

[Zamora] Indeed, the meeting will take place outside El Salvador for practical reasons. We will, of course, discuss matters relating to the agenda, that is, an agreement on the points in the agenda that will be discussed.

[Marciano] Do you feel that there is a possibility that the process of dialogue will be interrupted during the prior meetings?

[Zamora] Our only concern here is that in our previous experience at Sesori, which was a preparatory meeting, everything came to a stalemate. Therefore, it was impossible to hold the full dialogue in El Salvador. We have the same concern, but we hope the Salvadoran Government's attitude will not hamper things but make them more expeditious so that we can meet on 4 October in San Salvador at the apostolic nunciature.

[Marciano] Dr Zamora, do we have to realize that this meeting will solely serve to discuss operational matters?

[Zamora] Yes. For us, the preparatory meeting is singly and exclusively to discuss operational matters to prepare the 4 October meeting. In other words, the meeting is not going to be held to discuss substantive matters such as agreements to advance toward peace in San Salvador. That is not the objective of the preparatory meeting. Instead, we will discuss matters such as access to the media by the two sides, how will this be done, what the protocol of the meeting will be, I mean, the agenda of the meeting, and the arrival of the FMLN-FDR delegations.

These are the two things that will be discussed next week. I repeat: We hope that there will not be any obstacles to holding the meeting in San Salvador on 4 October. The logistics of transporting the delegates will obviously be discussed during that meeting.

[Marciano] Are the FMLN and FDR optimistic about the third dialogue? Do you think that specific agreements can be reached during this meeting?

[Zamora] We are very committed to making specific progress in the meeting on 4 October. We also think the process of dialogue must be continuous since no matter how strong our commitment is, it would be unrealistic to think that it will be possible to resolve the whole problem in just 4, 6, or 8 hours. For that reason, we think that it is indispensible to ask for continuity in the process of a dialogue so that we move toward the objective of achieving peace for the Salvadoran people. We also think that it is necessary to have specific results in the 4 October meeting, and we are totally committed and determined to achieve that.

[Marciano] When President Duarte announced the third dialogue on 4 October, he said that it will be at the highest level for the two sides. What can you tell us about the FMLN-FDR delegation to the dialogue?

[Marciano] Yes, over 1 month ago we proposed that the meeting be at the highest level. For us, this means that members of the FDR Executive Committee and of the FMLN General Command will attend...

[Marciano, interrupting] YSU listeners, these were remarks by the FDR Vice President Ruben Zamora reporting on the meeting held on Saturday in Panama with mediator Msgr Rivera y Damas. According to Zamora, the names of the FMLN and the FDR delegates will be announced this week. The delegates will participate in the third dialogue for peace on 4 October at the apostolic nunciature of San Salvador.

Comments on Preparatory Meeting

PA300051 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Telephone interview with FDR Vice President Ruben Zamora from undisclosed location by unidentified radio announcer—live]

[Text] [Reporter] Good morning, Doctor. You can go ahead with your report.

[Zamora] I want to inform the YSU listeners that today we will be holding a preparatory meeting for the 4 October dialogue. We probably will have some results in the evening or early tomorrow morning.

[Reporter] Do you have some points that you consider very important and that you want to discuss in this preparatory meeting?

[Zamora] That is correct. In the previous meeting, with the archbishop of San Salvador—he is the official intermediary for the dialogue—our fronts talked with the archbishop and presented to him two papers stating the points that in our opinion we have to define in this preparatory meeting between the government and our fronts. The archbishop has informed the Salvadoran Government about our position, and for this reason we believe we will be able to advance rapidly in this coordination meeting because the two sides know ahead of time what will be discussed and they know the position of the FMLN-FDR on these points, since all that was explained to the archbishop this past Sunday.

[Reporter] Who will represent the government and the guerrillas in this meeting?

[Zamora] It is up to the Salvadoran Government to announce the names of its delegates. I can tell you that the delegates of the fronts are Jorge de la Porta, Eduardo Calles, and Dr Salvador Samayoa.

[Reporter] What appeal would you like to make to the Salvadoran people before ending the interview?

[Zamora] I, along with all the Salvadoran people, would insist on the same idea: To secure peace in El Salvador it is necessary that all Salvadorans unite to struggle for a solution among Salvadorans to resolve the needs of El Salvador.

I think this is an important, a very important moment for all Salvadorans, who, using the means available to each sector—the professionls through the media, the workers through their labor unions, religious organizations through their religious means—should express a Salvadoran will to resolve the problem among Salvadorans, for the Salvadorans. This would be my appeal. I want to thank the YSU listeners and this radio station for this opportunity.

[Reporter] We have just talked with Ruben Zamora, vice president of the FDR, who has announced that this morning a meeting in preparation for the summit of next Sunday has taken place between government and guerrilla representatives to secure some operational agreements for the forthcoming meeting for peace.

Guatemala

URNG Wants Talks With State, Not Commission

PA292304 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 28 Sep 87 p 31

[Communique issued by the URNG High Command in Guatemala City on 25 September]

[Text] Until now the URNG High Command has not obtained a serious and definite response from President Cerezo or his government concerning its repeated and precise dialogue proposal.

It is obvious the entire government is not applying uniform criteria regarding a dialogue with the URNG.

Statements made by the president, the Army, and different state branches demonstrate that there are substantial or confusing differences among them and that these tend to misinform national and international public opinion and attempt to create an uncertain political picture of the true political, social, economic, and military situation in Guatemala.

Within this framework, President Cerezo stated on 11 September that this dialogue could be referred to the National Reconciliation Commission. This presidential statement is a manipulation designed to evade the government's unavoidable responsibility.

The URNG High Command wishes to make it clear that its proposal for dialogue is primarily for a national dialogue with the government and not with an extragovernmental commission whose functions are clearly defined in the Esquipulas II agreements.

The URNG High Command would be willing to meet separately with the National Reconciliation Commission, but it cannot accept Cerezo or the defense minister delegating political responsibility to that commission.

The subjects to be covered within this dialogue require political and governmental decisions; thus the speakers must have the power to make these decisions. Other functions have been assigned to the National Reconciliation Commission.

Our proposal is supported by a political and military force that the Army's high command itself has admitted it has not been able to defeat in 27 years and cannot do so by itself.

The URNG proposes that negotiations for a political solution be initiated with the participation of all the Guatemalan groups and our proposal is to be accepted in this manner.

Acceptance of our proposal requires that the Army be given its appropriate position and that it abandon its counterinsurgency plan that tends to convert it into the country's central power and the arbiter of the Guatemalan organizational situation, over and above all the popular and special interests.

The URNG High Command does not wish to eliminate the possibility of a meeting with the National Reconciliation Commission, but it rejects the governmental maneuver of using this means to evade its responsibility for a public and direct dialogue with the URNG. The URNG High Command proposed this dialogue in response to statements President Cerezo made during his recent trip to Europe.

In accordance with the document entitled "Procedures to Establish a Firm and Lasting Peace in Central America," and subject to the commission's verification, the URNG High Command reaffirms that a dialogue should be held between the government and the URNG High Command.

The URNG High Command demands that President Cerezo make a serious and definite statement to this effect.

If this is not done, his hesitation must be interpreted as a reflection of the serious contradictions within his government or the lack of a political will to achieve peace and build democracy.

URNG High Command

Guatemala City, 25 September 1987

Nicaragua

Ortega Statement on Follow-Up Commission

PA291913 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1806 GMT 29 Sep 87

["Declaration" issued by President Daniel Ortega Saavedra in Managua on 28 September]

[Text] Bearing in mind that on 22 August, the International Verification and Follow-up Commission was installed in Caracas, Venezuela, in fulfillment of what is established in point A, No 10 of the Esquipulas II agreements; whereas the commitments made by the five Central American presidents form a harmonious and indivisible whole, the signing of which entails the obligation—accepted in good faith—to simultaneously comply with what was agreed upon within the established periods; whereas point B, No 10 of those agreements establishes that in order to strengthen the efforts of the International Verification and Follow-Up Commission the governments of the five Central American states will issue declarations in support of its work, reaffirming their willingness to fully accept the historic challenge of building a destiny of peace for Central America; and considering the important mission of the International Verification and Follow-Up Commission, entrusted to the Central American presidents, the Nicaraguan Government issues the following declaration:

1. The Nicaraguan Government states its firm willingness to support and back the work of the International Verification and Follow-Up Commission and to provide it with all the necessary help so that it can fully carry out its functions.

2. It also expresses its firm desire to guarantee to the commission full access, internal transportation, and lodging for its on-site verification work and the necessary technical and human resources to fulfill its mandate to facilitate, to the extent possible, the commission's fulfillment of the high mission it has been entrusted with.

3. The Nicaraguan Government reiterates its firm belief that the effective support for the International Verification and Follow-Up Commission must be expressed, among other ways, through decisions and specific measures to guarantee that on 5 November 1987, at the latest, the commission will be able to exercise its function of on-site verification and follow-up. For this purpose, Nicaragua believes it is essential for the members of the commission to hold a second meeting as soon as possible after the second meeting of ad hoc representatives to be held in Guatemala on 8 and 9 October.

4. The Nicaragua Government invites all nations interested in promoting the cause of freedom, democracy, and peace in Central America to adhere to this declaration and to express their full support for the Esquipulas II agreements and for the International Verification and Follow-Up Commission.

5. This declaration will be made known to the other Central American governments, the Contadora and Support Groups, the UN and OAS secretaries general, and the members of the European Commission and the Nonaligned Movement.

Issued in Managua, Nicaragua, 28 September 1987

[signed] Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, President of Nicaragua

Conservative Party Protests Discrimination

PA300413 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Telegram sent to Minister of the Interior Commander Tomas Borge by the Conservative Party of Nicaragua; date and place not given]

[Text] Despite the government's regulation protecting freedom of the press without prior censorship, Radio Corporacion, a national radio station that has clearly been active in the opposition in the past, has been allowed to resume its newscasts. [sentence as heard] We protest this discrimination and demand full freedom of expression and association for all of the country's radio stations in accordance with the Esquipulas II accords.

[Signed] Ulpiano Lacayo, Political Secretary of the Conservative Party of Nicaragua.

Panama

Delvalle Raps U.S. Treaty 'Noncompliance'

PA300459 Paris AFP in Spanish 0443 GMT 30 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Panama City, 29 Sep (AFP)—Panamanian President Eric Delvalle today warned that, if necessary, "every last Panamanian will die in the canal basin" to defend the canal treaties signed with the United States.

Speaking on Mexico's "24 Hours" program tonight—the Presidency Press Office simultaneously distributed a transcript of this program—Delvalle reported that U.S. Government sectors are looking for an excuse to justify the noncompliance with the canal treaties.

He added that along with this, an effort is being made, through economic pressure, "to keep the military bases after the year 2000" in Panamanian territory.

Delvalle disclosed that Panama has been the target of "an enormous" attack from the U.S. media and U.S. Government sectors because of the role that Panama has played within the Contadora Group for the pacification of Central America.

In response, Delvalle called for the support of Latin America and the free world to demand that the United States abide by the canal treaties and return to Panama its full sovereignty over the canal. [passage omitted]

Delvalle on Proposals To Solve Problems

PA260023 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2327 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Report on news conference by President Eric Arturo Delvalle with unidentified reporters; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] President Eric Arturo Delvalle revealed that the government will announce in the next few days several proposals to lift the country out of its present crisis. He insisted that the solution lies in dialogue and that his government is most willing to lead the country to better things.

[Begin recording] [Delvalle] We are aware that we have problems and that (?everything in life) depends on a dialogue, on talking things out, on expressing opinions. The road of violence and anarchy leads nowhere. I believe that, in the next few days, everyone will see the government's effort to show its good faith and its good intentions to rectify what is necessary in the country.

[Reporter] Mr President, there are sectors that believe the so-called national dialogue called by the government has been a total failure. What is your opinion?

[Delvalle] Those sectors you mention are the ones who have not wanted to hold a dialogue, because they want things to be done their way. They demand democracy, but they do not respect democracy. They demand freedom, but what they want is anarchy. Thus, they actually do the opposite of what they demand. I feel that they should properly demonstrate their maturity and their real interest in seeking a resolution of our problems and do so within the framework of the nation's Constitution.

[Reporter] What is the government's proposal to get out of the crisis we now find ourselves in?

[Delvalle] The government will reveal that in the next few days. The closing of the communications media took place in the midst of violations of several codes; but more than anything the closing occurred because the media did in fact commit the crime of attempting to harm the national economy and calling for sedition, civil disobedience, and the overthrow of state institutions.

[Reporter] Mr President, is that the reason? [passage indistinct]

[Delvalle] The media knew exactly what they were doing. They were closed by the authorities of the judicial branch. Personally, I feel that they should be reopened [words indistinct] in September. I respect freedom of expression; however, we must draw the limit to safeguard the respect that all Panamanians owe one another, and so that there really will be a permanent right to freedom of expression in Panama. [end recording]

Noriega Comments on Political Situation

PA260335 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 19 Sep 87 pp 1-A, 15-A, 37-A

[Interview with General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces, FDP, by Marta Anaya at the Presidente Hotel in Chapultepec, Mexico; date not given]

[Excerpt] [Introductory passage omitted] [Anaya] General Noriega, what are your views on Panama?

[Noriega] Right now in Panama there is a political situation... with... with foreign plans to interfere in Panama's domestic affairs. To understand Panamanian problems it is necessary to know Panama's role, its position in current history. Panama is a member of the Contadora Group and has played an active role in the search for peace in Central America. Panama has maintained that dialogue should prevail over violence. Panama is a nonaligned country where there is ideological pluralism... Panama gained extensive experience in international conflicts when it searched for its own destiny... When Torrijos signed the treaties with Carter we found that, as he said, he had taken the first step and the coming generation had to finish what he had started, which was not perfect and needed some improvements.

Panama is now searching for that destiny... What is Panama like now? There is uncertainty now because, as we are approaching the time of total vindication, when there will be a single nation with only one flag, there will be threats and ambushes—to use a military term. There will also be plots, slander, and insults.

[Anaya] How would you describe former Colonel Roberto Diaz' involvement in this affair?

[Noriega] Roberto Diaz' involvement in this affair is like a bad accident, which for ethical reasons I would not like to....

[Anaya] According to the reports we receive, he is regarded as the instigator of the crisis... What do you think will happen to him?

[Noriega] Following that, he... and this is also part of the disinformation being spread because the news media did not report this... he has asked for a pardon, he regrets his actions. He went to the district attorney but he has not been able to prove any of the charges, he has retracted the charges he made, and he has stated that he was a victim of a temporary illness, of temporary insanity, and the politicians tried to take advantage of this situation and tried to find in him a nonexistent truth and to use him. We are witnessing what could be described as a comrade-in-arms,... a foolish comrade-in-arms.

[Anaya] What are your feelings toward him?

[Noriega] He... We studied in the same country. He is older than I... we met, and first we were friends, and then we agreed on some political issues. Torrijos described him as a poet who chose a military carrer by accident, and who was thus vulnerable to the difficult problems of the military. I was friendly with him until...; and afterwards, as a subordinate, within the limits of associations maintained by subordinates and friends.... until the current events where I have already... As a Christian, I have risen above the harm he has done. I have left these matters to two authorities: the moral aspect to God, and the legal aspect to the Panamanian courts.

[Anaya] How would you describe yourself? What is your role? There are some who consider you as the strongman in Panama, and others who consider you as the cause or the reason for the violence. What is your opinion?

[Noriega] I am the commander of the Armed Forces... with a nationalistic awareness and tradition, with a sense of patriotism and Panamenism; like the Mexicans have, which is why I admire all Mexicans, for their history, their integrity and courage, and because they do not give up.... Thus, my role is that of a professional. I am a professional soldier. However, the circumstances have been different for the armed forces in every country in Latin America and in the world.

[Anaya] Could you describe that role?

[Noriega] Here the FDP works with the masses, the peasants, the Indians, and the most needy. Therefore, since 1960-1970 we have linked the FDP with the people, and we believe that we have been improving this since 1983 by expanding our involvement with civic actions... I am the link between the people and the Armed Forces; I am the instrument of that mixture, in which the lower, middle, and lower middle classes have decided that they will not take a step backwards in the achievements they have gained.

[Anaya] Are you the ruler?

[Noriega] I am a very respectful person. President Delvalle can tell you that. I have always been very respectful of all the other presidents,and I am respectful of my subordinates.

[Anaya] Some people have said that in Panama it is the military that really has the power.

[Noriega] We would like to qualify that statement, because we do not view power in that way. That is, some people view power as something specific and visceral, such as someone wielding a sword in his hand and everybody doing what that person says because he holds the sword or the whip in his hand. That is the definition of power that enemies throughout the world know, which originated in Washington. However, that is not the image of power appropriate for Panama. In Panama, it is normal for a corporal to be the go-between if a school

needs to be built or a road constructed. Why? Because there are only 2 million people in Panama. This makes us have a different type of national cohesion. This characteristic is what has made us—based on a doctrine—realize that we should not be at the garrisons playing war games and discussing Napoleonic wars; we should be turning our attention to the people's needs. Our human resources have been put at the people's service.

Thus, when you are able to work and to respond to the people, then you necessarily have a hierarchy; you have power.... However, this is not the power of the sword or the power of the whip—it is the power of the hierarchy to be used to meet the people's needs.

[Anaya] Will the day come when the Armed Forces will govern Panama?

[Noriega] The Armed Forces will continue playing its role. There will always be a ruler. It is good for the Armed Forces that there will always be someone to blame... that is the truth. Why do we want people to blame us for things? It is better to keep the status quo.

[Anaya] What do you think of the Civic Crusade?

[Noriega] It is the manifestation of the destabilization plan against Panama supported by the long arm of U.S. colonialism. The United States obviously sent the members of the Crusade to the Philippines to learn from the model that the U.S. tried to establish there. They did not realize that Panama is not the Philippines, that our Armed Forces are not Marcos' Armed Forces, and that an oligarchy eager for power cannot rule this country again. There is a popular force that will not let them return.

[Anaya] Do you believe that power-sharing by the military and the civilian government should be maintained, or do you believe that one should be above the other?

[Noriega] As it is now, the rule of Panama has been coordinated between the Armed Forces and the president of the Republic, and will be until 1989. We have a military-civilian joint chief of staff. The newly elected president in 1989 will establish new rules to play the game; but I can honestly tell you that the president's power predominates over all other powers socially and economically. We do not attend cabinet meetings; we do not sign laws, contracts, or concessions; and we do not appoint any government officials. Those are specific presidential functions. We have an internal function, and this internal role is the opposition's pretext to discredit the president and to falsely interpret the situation. They want to compare us with any other warrier from another tribe.

[Anaya] Finally, General, how do you view the future in the short term?

[Noriega] Insofar as the brains behind the U.S. destabilization campaign continues irritating us... Well, there is a reaction to all actions; insofar as that situation continues, our anger and irritiation with the United States will increase. We want to resolve our problems ourselves, and what we see is a strategy to avoid fulfilling the treaties.

Paredes Discusses Possible Break in U.S. Ties

PA291642 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 29 Sep 87 pp A-1, A-12

[By James Aparicio]

[Text] Legislator Rigoberto Paredes, chairman of the Legislative Assembly's Budget Commission and member of the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD), yesterday announced the possibility of a break in diplomatic relations with the U.S. Government if the pressures against the Panamanian Government continue.

Referring to the U.S. Senate resolution demanding Panama make political changes within 45 days and threatening economic sanctions, Paredes said he "could not say if we are going to propose a break in relations to the president. If things continue in this direction, however, that is the step we may be forced to take."

Referring to the United States, the legislator said that "it is not possible to maintain friendly relations with a country that is not showing its friendship, that is economically strangling us, and that wants to eliminate us."

According to Paredes, U.S. Embassy officials, as well as groups in the Senate and State Department "have been carrying out openly aggressive actions against Panama and have been intervening in our domestic affairs."

The PRD legislator said there is an open siege against Panama. He, therefore, foresees "the threat of more direct and open aggression against Panama, because all these attacks are part of a plan seeking to topple this government and to create conditions for installing a junta."

Paredes continued by saying: "Noriega is only an excuse, because the real issue is whether it (the United States) will have bases here past the year 2000, who will run and defend the canal, and whether there will be a sea-level canal."

Paredes said that in view of the current situation, "we Panamanians must begin preparing for difficulties, because in the future we will be very worried and possibly be sad."

Official, Legislator on U.S. Relations

PA281513 Panama City Panavision Television in Spanish 2330 GMT 27 Sep 87

["History's Witnesses" program with moderator Eduardo Herrera Cedeno and Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera, National Assembly Legislator Luis Navas, and former National University Rector Eligio Salas]

[Excerpts] [Herrera Cedeno] My first question is for Deputy Foreign Minister Cabrera. What is the current state of Panama's relations with the United States?

[Cabrera] Good evening, Eduardo Herrera Cedeno. I thank you for your invitation to participate in this important program because of its testimonial [as heard] and educational nature.

The current state of Panama's relations with the United States is deplorably tense. It is very tense because of what everyone knows; I mean the role which has been played by people linked with the U.S. Government in the destabilization process which has prevailed in our country during the last 3 months. This has interfered with the normal and harmonious development of the relations between the two countries. Given the mutual links and interests between the two countries, we maintain what might be described as a sui generis relationship between the two states. The dimensions of the U.S. presence in Panama, basically for economic reasons and for the Panama Canal's operation and defense, is hardly equalled by any other foreign government's presence in other countries of the world, at least not on the American Continent. Consequently, this creates a much more intense relationship than that which could exist between the United States and any other country on the continent. I might add that this includes Canada and Mexico, which not only share a border with the United States but maintain high-level relations with that country. However, those relations respond to their common border needs and are quite different from the relations demanded by the important U.S. interests in Panama. These important interests not only include a high percentage of U.S. investments in Panama—another reason for the large U.S. presence in Panama—but also the Panama Canal's operation and defense of the canal areas. [passage omitted]

[Herrera Cedeno] I want to ask the deputy foreign minister: Following an analysis of Panama's historical relations with the United States and the historical context previously described by Doctors Navas and Salas, is there an analogy between the situation which prevailed during Panama's negotiations with the United States and the 1903-1904 situation?

[Cabrera] I would say there is some kind of analogy. Legislator Navas just said that some kind of cyclical phenomenon occurs here, and I do believe he is right. We are again facing a situation of this nature. I will try not to contradict Dr Salas' brilliant statement. I would say that the first intervention in Panama's republican life occurred precisely when our homeland became a nation. A sinister plot was hatched by U.S. Secretary of State John Hay and the ill-fated Bunau Varilla to exert pressure on the provisional government junta during the process of ratifying the isthmian canal agreement. The members of that first provisional government were threatened so that they would approve the agreement signed in Washington on 18 November, 15 days after Panama's declaration of independence. And we all know what the consequences were.

Analyzing all the current issues of mutual interest between Panama and the United States, I mentioned the Panama Canal's defense. One of the basic elements in the 1977 Panama Canal Treaty is stated in Article No 5, which states that the U.S. military presence in Panama will end on 31 December 1999. In other words, the United States must pull its military forces out prior to that date, or on that date at the very latest, and must close down its bases and defense sites in our national territory.

Within the context of the international situation which prevails in this region, I think I am not wrong when I say that the situation which prevailed in 1977 was quite different. The United States urgently needs Panama's assurance that it will be able to extend its military presence in our territory beyond the year 2000. Let us bear in mind that other changes have taken place, are taking place, and will continue to take place in the Caribbean Basin. Let us not forget that the Guantanamo Base agreement expires shortly after 1999, at a time when the United States should be closing down its bases in Panama. We must also bear in mind the amounts that the United States has invested here—this involves billions of dollars—and the cost that the creation of new military installations would entail, because the United States would need similar or even larger bases than those it has in Panama. Consequently, I believe that these are very important factors which affect the attitude of certain powerful sectors in the U.S. Government, their relations with Panama, and their current conduct in our country.

Nothing would be easier or more feasible than to implement the procedure or method that was tested in Chile against Salvador Allende in 1973. This method was perfect through the years and involves staging an uprsing in our territory by supporting sectors which—in the United States' opinion—are more willing than our current leaders to negotiate and approve an extension of the U.S. presence in our country. This would be done with the necessary anticipation to guarantee the United States' peace of mind and safeguard that country's security.

[Herrera Cedeno] Thank you, Dr Cabrera. The deputy foreign minister has made a statement that gives rise to several questions. [passage omitted]

I am going to go back to Dr Navas. Dr Cabrera has said the United States could very much want to prolong its presence in Panama after 1999 because it will have to close its bases in Guantanamo and other parts of the world. Dr Salas spoke about the dissolution of the national army in 1904. Dr Cabrera brought up the military problem. I would like Legislator Navas, who is a professor of Panamanian-U.S. relations [at the University of Panama], to expand a bit on this subject and to answer this question: What military factor is exerting influence on the United States and Panama to speed up the signing of a new canal treaty, if there is such a factor?

[Navas] [Passage omitted] After we signed the treaties, we held a plebiscite and approved them. In the United States, however, during debates in the Senate, amendments and reservations were added to the treaty. One of these reservations is the Church reservation, which proposes, almost as an obligation, that before 1999 our country negotiate the future U.S. presence here.

[Herrera Cedeno] Just a minute, Legislator Navas. Is there a treaty reservation that obligates Panama to negotiate a U.S. military presence after the year 2000?

[Navas] It is an obligation for the United States, I repeat. That was a unilateral U.S. decision that they want to impose on us. Based on this situation we have determined that the conflicts taking place in Panama right now result from the fact that the United States will have to spend millions as a result of the War Department—the Pentagon—order to modernize defensive systems. The U.S. military bases in Panama are important for its hegemonic policy, especially in Central America.

There are two elements at play here: the U.S. military presence and U.S. Central American policy, particularly toward Nicaragua.

First, they tried to invade Nicaragua. Our intuition told us about the danger this represented, so we set in motion a Torrijist experience: the Contadora Group. I want to tell you that this was the result of a serious and tough discussion with General Paredes at the Washington Hotel in Colon. This discussion took place in the presence of then Colonel Roberto Diaz Herrera. My position cost me a seat on the Democratic Revolutionary Party, PRD, Political Commission, because we upheld in that meeting our position that it was necessary not to isolate Panama and necessary for our country to help secure peace in Central America, because this would help us resolve a situation that gave credence to the argument that the U.S. military presence in our country is necessary.

If the U.S. military presence in our country remains, then it will be impossible, or very improbable, that the United States will comply with the treaty.

I can tell you the United States has never faithfully complied with a treaty. We should not fool ourselves. These treaties will not be complied with if the Panamanians do not have the patriotic attitude and will to enforce compliance. I would say that one of Omar Torrijos' most discerning actions was to come up with a treaty that obliges the youth, through this string of patriotic struggles that have taken place in our country, to maintain and improve our sovereignty and development as a free and independent nation.

There are some sectors who say that the United States is offering us its solidarity and that this is not a case of intervention. It is worthwhile to define what intervention is. Intervention of one state in the affairs of another is no more and no less than the desire of one state—in this case a powerful state, of course—to impose its will. What does the United States want to impose on us? Its military presence. What else? It does not want to turn over the canal. They say they are going to turn over the canal. They will not do it for the simple reason that the canal administrator handles sensitive information, and they do not trust us.

They want to demonstrate that the Panamanians cannot: 1) manage the canal adequately; and 2) provide protection and security for the canal. History proves this. First, they dissolved our army. As soon as we were able to form the republic—let us call it that—the U.S. ambassador, Buchanan, insistently urged us to dissolve our army. [passage omitted]

[Herrera Cedeno] Fine, Doctor. This is getting hot, as we say. I have noticed Dr Salas is there, listening. Navas has mentioned that the national army was dissolved in 1904 on orders from the U.S. State Department. Dr Salas, since 1904 how have the governments, with disarmed police, managed the U.S. military tutelage, as well as the Coto War, during the Belisario Porras administration? What did the governments do?

[Salas] In my most recent statement, I mentioned what Ricaurte Soler has characterized as solicited and unsolicited interventions. We could refer to them as U.S. interventions that were carried out with and without our consent. As the deputy foreign minister and Legislator Navas have said here, on some occasions the U.S. interventions have been requested by some Panamanians, whether in the government or in the opposition. [passage omitted]

One unsolicited intervention came in 1921, as a result of the border conflict between Panama and Costa Rica and of the Coto War, when the Panamanian Government headed by Dr Belisario Porras stated its opposition to the implementation of the White rule. This U.S. Supreme Court ruling on the Costa Rican border was unfavorable to Panama. The State Department forced the Panamanian Government to withdraw from Coto in spite of the fact that Panama was victorious in the clash

with the Costa Rican Armed Forces, occupied the territory, and was entitled to remain there based on international law. [passage omitted]

We could also term as unsolicited two interventions on 9 January 1964 and on 15 December 1969, when officers of the former National Guard who were very much linked to the CIA tried a minicoup against General Torrijos.

There is also a kind of intervention I would call permanent. It takes place through economic pressures and through culture. I believe Panama's economic dependency, a dependency it has endured since its relationship with the United States began, represents a permanent form of intervention that is currently being made evident by IMF and World Bank restrictions. Their economic recipe leads governments and people who accept this into a deep hole, as has been demonstrated not only by Panama's case but also by the case of any other Latin American or Third World country.

[Herrera Cedeno] Thank you, Dr Salas. [passage omitted]

[Salas] Yes. I would like to conclude my statement by saying that another form of permanent U.S. intervention in our country is, as has been said here, the military occupation. We are rapidly approaching an important date. There is an international treaty the United States has the obligation to strictly obey in line with international norms. That treaty states the United States must leave ther military bases and their defense sites on 12 December 1999 [as heard] and that all foreign soldiers in our territory must leave at 1200 on 31 December 1999. Their departure will represent the end of the permanent intervention we have endured since the beginning of the century. Their military presence is one of the basic and fundamental obstacles to our efforts to improve our national state. Since that date is fast approaching, the current situation is being addressed. The United States, from a strategic point of view, needs to continue occupying their military bases in the former canal zone. They do not know how to evade this sting because of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties.

As the year 2000 approaches, the U.S. intervention in our domestic affairs will become more open and more shameless. We have seen nothing yet.

The fact that Ambassador Davis goes to demonstrations conducted by people who want to destabilize this regime is only the beginning of what may happen. I want to emphasize to people like the deputy foreign minister—our friend, our revered, Cabrera—who have the responsibility of managing our foreign relations, that those who direct our foreign relations have growing responsibilities as we move toward the year 2000.

Now that we are talking about rectifications and changes, we must make some adjustments in handling foreign policy. It is not possible to continue improvising in some fields. I do not mean to criticize. This is advice. It is not possible to continue sending as ambassadors to the United States people who have neither the inclination nor the knowledge for this field and do not have the proper attitude for facing such complex and vital problems. This is what has been happening with recent appointments, even though we could be talking about very distinguished people. We cannot appoint them if they cannot function in that post as Panamanian history and commitments currently demand. We must have a more coherent foreign policy, especially with the United States. We must go back to the method through which we internationalized our problem. This is the only way we can be strong and face the demands and pressure the United States will continue to exert.

If we engage in a bilateral confrontation with the United States to resolve or face the problem of the implementation of and compliance with the treaty, the United States will have the advantage.

The Torrijos process demonstrated that Panama grew strong as a result of the solidarity it obtained at the international level. We must return to that situation, to that method, so the United States will comply with the treaties, so all the U.S. soldiers will leave the military bases, and so our country, our nation, may perfect this aspect of its national independence.

[Herrera Cedeno] Thank you, Dr Salas. [passage omitted]

Regarding the alleged political interventions by the United States, it has been said on several occasions that the Foreign Ministry has a lukewarm attitude toward the U.S. Embassy's role in Panama. Based on the historical process we have tried to portray, do you think the Foreign Ministry is acting in a way consistent with the actual situation? Is the Foreign Ministry's position toward the United States a more tactical than a strategic position, like other foreign ministries have used when they have faced the United States?

[Cabrera] Well, you have asked me the question almost in military terms. Foreign relations are basically handled from a diplomatic and political viewpoint. Because of my participation and knowledge in these matters and my work with Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia Arias, I have no doubt relations with the United States are being handled with the greatest objectivity and patriotism. It is very easy to be led by emotions. It is generally said passion is not a good adviser. We must handle these relations without passion, but this does not mean with less patriotism.

As far as I am concerned, I devote all my interests, efforts, and patriotism to my job. My responsibility as a Panamanian and as a government official with a specific

mission is more than respecting the memory of our forefathers, martyrs, and all those who have previously traveled this long, sad, and painful path to improve our independence. We do not have a political responsibility only to our fellow countrymen. I think there is also a much more important responsibility. It is the present generation's responsibility to the future generations, not only to our own children but to the children of all our fellow countrymen. That is the task we must fulfill and the path we must pave. This is why under no circumstances can we give up, yield, or submit to the pressures from any quarter to force us to make concessions in the final path for national liberation and for perfecting our independence or to totally yield control of our main natural resource, the interoceanic waterway.

[Herrera Cedeno] Thank you, Dr Cabrera. We have come to the end of this program. However, we are halfway into the discussion. Therefore, next week we will have Deputy Foreign Minister Cabrera, Eligio Salas, and Luis Navas on this program to continue this discussion of U.S. intervention in Panama. Thank you for watching us, and we thank these three brilliant Panamanians for participating in this program. Until next Sunday, this is Eduardo Herrera.

Senate Resolution Causes 'Uncertainty'

PA271448 Paris AFP in Spanish 1316 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Panama City, 27 Sep (AFP)—A climate of uncertainty prevails in Panama following Thursday's approval by the U.S. Senate of a resolution demanding that the government of Eric Arturo Delvalle carry out "democratic reforms in 45 days" or face the suspension of all economic and military aid to this country.

On the domestic front, the Panamanian Government has been experiencing for the past 4 months the worst crisis of the past few years, in which the opposition, grouped together in the National Civic Crusade, is demanding the resignation of General Manuel Antonio Noriega. A way out of the situation is not envisaged at the moment.

Panama's economy—already full of problems with an asphyxiating foreign debt that surpasses $4 billion—has deteriorated even further during these months as a result of the withdrawal of some $2 billion from the international banking center because of the climate generated by continuous antigovernment protests.

This "sensitivity" of the Panamanian economy will reflect these negative effects in late 1987 and early 1988, Comptroller Francisco Rodriguez told AFP, confirming that "economic activity has decreased because of the crisis."

The construction industry is paralyzed, and the work force in this sector, which employs 30,000 workers, has been reduced 25 percent. This is an indication of the difficult situation the country is experiencing.

For the government coalition, the Democratic National Union (UNADE), headed by Delvalle, the measure adopted Thursday by the Senate leaves two options: yield to the pressures by Washington or accept the sanctions and "struggle," as Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia well defined it.

The strong sanctions include, in addition to the suspension of all economic and military aid, the ban on exports of sugar and byproducts to the United States. These are industries in which the self-same President Delvalle has heavy investments.

The government—which in the opinion of Abadia "does not have a suicidal attitude or wish to be enslaved"—has not officially reacted, and it is expected that early this coming week Delvalle will announce his position.

Some 2,000 workers of the state La Victoria Sugarmill Corporation have announced a strike on Monday to demand that the government respond because of the possible reduction of the sugar quota and closure of this enterprise.

Delvalle, in an apparent response to the demands of diverse sectors of the country regarding changes in the government's economic and social policy, announced this week that in the coming days the government will announce the "steps [words indistinct].

President Delvalle announced on Friday that the government will take "the necessary steps" to effect "rectifications."

Meanwhile, there is speculation in diverse political circles of possible cabinet changes, and sources of the Crusade and the government have reported a rumor of a possible "coup d'etat."

However, such an action "would permit the Armed Forces to control the domestic pressure, but not the threat of [words indistinct] opposition has elicited aired protests from the Panamanian Foreign Ministry.

The Panamanian Government denounced the intervention "in Panama's domestic affairs" and "violation" of the Vienna Convention on the activities of diplomats in foreign countries.

For the moment, Delvalle does not appear to have "the magic formula" that will permit him to emerge from the crisis, and the United States—which, in the opinion of the Panamanian Government, seeks "a conservative change" in the domestic and international policy of Panama—played its card this week with the Senate resolution; it now expects results in 45 days.

Minister Says Crisis Affects Economy

PA251348 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Sep 87

[Report by Rigoberto Castillero—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Commerce and Industries Minister Jose Bernardo Cardenas has explained to this station the current economic situation resulting from the political crisis affecting the national commerce.

[Cardenas] "There is no doubt that the recent events since 6 June have affected Panama's economic growth. The indicators of the first 4-month period of this year showed that the Panamanian economy was registering a clear growth. The indicators showed that Panama was registering growth above 3 percent. However, these events that have caused a reduction of economic activity will inevitably be reflected in a downward trend of economic development. This is regrettable because the search for the solutions of the political problems, which to some extent are normal for any country, should never have such a decisive, harmful, and dangerous effect on the country's economy, because the country's economy does not belong to one sector but to all Panamanians."

The commerce and industries minister also spoke about the sector that has been affected the most by the current situation.

[Cardenas] "The sector that is most affected is domestic trade, because foreign trade does not depend on or is not affected by domestic events. Therefore, the sectors that suffer the most are the country's domestic trade, the development of industries such as construction, and the drop in consumption, because consumers are reducing their expenses. The effects mostly or perhaps totally fall on the country's domestic economy."

Asked about his ministry's suggestions to resolve the problems, he said:

[Cardenas] "The most significant step would be to reach a concerted resolution of the political problem so the storm cloud of disagreements and conflicts hanging over our country will disappear and we can again undertake clear efforts for development, which in the end is what is most advisable for Panama and all Panamanians."

Recent 'Instability' Affects Construction

PA261306 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Eduardo de Bello, president of the Panamanian Chamber of Construction [CAPAC], yesterday said that as a result of the tremendous sociopolitical instability in recent months caused by opposition groups disguised as the so-called Civic Crusade, the construction industry has suspended 30 projects worth over $20 million and the labor force has been reduced by 25 percent.

The CAPAC president added that construction programs worth over $26 million had dropped to $2 million in June. This, he said, is an example of the crisis created by these seditious activities. In addition, De Bello said restrictions on medium- and short-term financing have reduced investments and forced the construction companies to suspend many projects, mostly in housing. The CAPAC president said the destabilization caused by the seditious elements has severely affected the construction industry, which was flourishing last year at this time because of incentives approved by Eric Arturo Delvalle's government.

Bolivia

Villalobos Appointed Acting Energy Minister

PY291431 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Text] Through presidential decree No 21,718, which was released yesterday afternoon, Mining and Metallurgy Minister Jaime Villalobos was appointed acting energy and hydrocarbons minister by President Victor Paz Estenssoro.

The single-article presidential decree states: Mining and Metallurgy Minister Jaime Villalobos is hereby appointed acting energy and hydrocarbons minister. Dr. Villalobos, who will be acting energy and hydrocarbons minister until a new energy and hydrocarbons minister is appointed, will be installed today.

Dr Villalobos Sanjines was installed by the head of state during a simple ceremony at Government Palace yesterday afternoon at 1700.

Cancels Trip to Malaysia

PY261528 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Mining Minister Jaime Villalobos, who was scheduled to participate in the fifth conference of the association of tin-producing countries in Kuala Lumpur, has decided to cancel his trip.

The mining minister had met with the president of the Republic and received detailed instructions on the proposals the Bolivian delegation will make at the conference.

Bolivia will be represented at the conference by (Francisco Blacut), the Bolivian ambassador to Malaysia; and by (Jaime Bueno), the COMIBOL representative in London. The delegation will also include Deputies Edgar Barrientos Cazasola and Alberto Retamozo, who were invited by Minister Villalobos to attend the conference.

No Cabinet Shuffle Expected

PY291528 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Text] Information Minister Herman Antelo has confirmed that the president of the Republic does not intend to shuffle the Cabinet and that the only change involves the Energy and Hydrocarbons Ministry. Antelo said the head of state is carefully reviewing some names from which the successor of outgoing Energy Minister Morales Landivar will be chosen. Concerning persistent reports on a possible cabinet shuffle, the official government spokesman said:

[Begin Antelo recording] No. The president intends to replace only this minister. He is carefully considering a successor because the president believes the Energy and Hydrocarbons Ministry is very important and strategic, especially now that contacts have been made with Argentina and Brazil to reach very important agreements.

Thus, an acting energy and hydrocarbons minister was appointed in order to prevent a possible crisis as well as to replace the resigning minister. We hope the president will find a new energy and hydrocarbons minister in the next few hours or days. [end recording]

Elsewhere, Minister Antelo commented that, despite the busy negotiations in Buenos Aires between Bolivian and Argentine representatives, a final agreement has not been signed yet on Bolivian gas sales to Argentina.

[Begin Antelo recording] A final agreement has not been signed yet. However, we hope that Argentina will show greater receptiveness and will become aware of the Bolivian problem, because the delays no longer come from us but from our counterpart. [end recording]

Brazil

Further Reportage on Shevardnadze Visit

More on Sarney Meeting

PY291617 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1608 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, who is on an official visit to Brazil, has held a meeting with President Sarney. Shevardnadze wants Brazil to take part in the Soviet-U.S. disarmament talks as an observer. Moreover, Shevardnadze has invited President Sarney to visit the USSR, and Sarney has promised to visit Moscow by the beginning of 1988.

Announces Troop Withdrawal

PY292320 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2307 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Excerpt] This morning, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze visited Congress and announced that Mikhail Gorbachev wishes to visit Brazil.

In the afternoon, Shevardnadze held a second working meeting with Brazilian Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre in Itamaraty. The two foreign ministers agreed that peace in Central America is near thanks to the efforts of the Contadora Group. Afterward, Shevardnadze announced that Soviet troops will withdraw from Afghanistan soon. [passage omitted on unrelated material]

Holds Talks With Guimaraes

PY300302 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 29 Sep 87

[From Congressional Report—Chamber of Deputies]

[Text] Chamber of Deputies President Ulysses Guimaraes today told Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze: One of the most beautiful words in the Portuguese language, yearning [saudade], can only be translated exactly in the language of your country by the word, toska. Guimaraes thinks this is an auspicious sign for Brazil and the Soviet Union to further strengthen their cultural, economic, and social relations, now and in the future. Shevardnadze was accompanied in the meeting by Soviet Ambassador to Brazil Viktor Isakov, and ambassadors (Demara Stepanov), Sergey Tarasenko, and Leonid Kuz'min; Ministers Igor' Ivanov and (Vladimir Nukpin); and adviser (Vladimir Airovisky). Ulysses Guimaraes was accompanied by Homero Santos, Chamber of Deputies first vice president; Jorge Arbage, Chamber of Deputies second vice president; and Constituent Assembly Secretary Marcelo Cordeiro.

Guimaraes began the meeting by recalling that Brazilian legislative representatives and businessmen have visited the Soviet Union twice, each time bringing back very good impressions.

Shevardnadze said Soviet representatives, including himself, have visited Brazil in the past and took back to the USSR very good memories of the country, that they made many friends, and that they were very-well received by former Chamber of Deputies President Flavio Marcilio.

Shevardnadze defended the total ban on nuclear weapons, and added that the United States and the Soviet Union are now committed to negotiate such a ban. He said further that the abolition of these weapons and the acceptance in good faith by the world powers of regulations for the deployment of use of conventional weapons will free large resources to attend to basic needs of developing countries and will represent a step forward in attaining lasting world peace.

Guimaraes emphasized that Brazilians and Soviets have similar problems and stressed that Brazil is the fourth largest country in the world with the sixth largest population. He spoke of the Brazilian policy of preaching democracy throughout the entire American Continent and cited Uruguay, Argentina and Brazil as countries that have achieved democracy. He also discussed Brazilian efforts to draw Chile and Paraguay into fully respecting individual rights. Guimaraes said Brazil shares borders with 13 other countries and it has never faced insurmountable problems with them that have lead to confrontations or war. He said all Brazilians have an innate desire to live in brotherhood with all their neighbors.

Regarding the foreign debt, Ulysses Guimaraes said none of our problems can be solved without a complete reformulation of a system that forces us to pay between $11 and $12 billion in interest every year. This represents more than 4 percent of our GDP and prevents us from growing, from fighting unemployment, and, what is worst, from fighting poverty and avoiding misery.

Shevardnadze interrupted to say that all these problems could be solved if the world powers reduce their spending on new weapons.

Guimaraes said he agreed with Shevardnadze and added that the world no longer consents to powerful nations bleeding and dictating norms to less developed countries. He added that this has caused some states to live in total misery. He further recalled that these sentiments were expressed by President Sarney in the UN General Assembly but that international creditors have not acknowledged it yet. Neither have they shown any concern for the situation in which the majority live. They have continued to demand the impossible from us. Guimaraes emphasized that all creditor countries want to pay their debt, but in a more humane way, or at least, in a less inhumane way.

Shevardnadze said the Soviets understand the situation and will do anything for a little more justice in the world. He added that he thinks technology might make things easier for humanity. Shevardnadze said developing countries lose $250 million each year due to lack of proper technological conditions and emphasized the need for more investments in these areas.

Guimaraes said he was aware of the problem and recalled that Minister of Science and Technology Renato Archer collected a lot of information during his recent visit to the Soviet Union to improve the area of computer development in Brazil for its application in all the productive sectors. Guimaraes added that this is the best way to combat inequality and poverty. He said he was aware that all socialist authorities consider this area fundamental and that facing these problems will strengthen their relations.

Guimaraes informed Shevardnadze that the work of the Constituent Assembly is encouraging and emphasized the importance of the participation of 26 women from several states.

Shevardnadze said Gorbachev intends to visit Brazil after Sarney's visit to the USSR and added that his government has the best disposition for a total improvement of relations in all areas.

Bresser Gives Address at IMF Meeting

PY282140 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] In his speech at the meeting of the IMF temporary committee in Washington, Brazilian Finance Minister Bresser Pereira said the process of economic adjustment

with recession being experienced by the debtor countries is ineffective and onerous. Bresser focused his speech entirely on the strategy for dealing with the problem, which he qualified as non-permanent and inappropriate.

Referring to the discouraging growth of the industrialized countries, Bresser criticized the negative results of the process of adjustment with recession, which is based on reduced consumption, and is prescribed as a way to face the economic crisis.

In Bresser Pereira's opinion, the results of this process have been dramatic, and have seriously hindered the possibilities for growth of the debtor countries.

Today, the minister said, the challenge presented to debtors and creditors is to find a long-lasting solution to the foreign debt problem, and they must realize that this solution cannot be postponed.

Bresser believes many of the debtor countries are exhausting their possibilities of achieving further adjustments domestically and abroad.

No Payments to Paris Club, Japan

PY300222 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2255 GMT 30 Sep 87

[Text] At today's IMF meeting, Finance Minister Bresser Pereira gave bad news to our creditors: Brazil will not pay anything to official banks of the Paris Club or to Japanese banks.

[Begin relay from Washington by reporter Lucas Mendes] On the fifth day of contacts and negotiations between Brazilian officials and our creditors in Washington, there was neither great progress nor major setbacks. Yet, there may be a long delay in negotiations. Minister Bresser said:

[Begin recording] [Bresser] It is not true that the negotiations will conclude on Friday. We are still going to negotiate for a long time because our creditor banks and (?governments) believe it is better to wait for the Constituent Assembly to conclude its work [words indistinct].

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Bresser] No, the Paris Club, that is something else. We are not going to pay that [passage indistinct]. We are not going to pay them the principal. We are paying them interest, which is enough. [end recording]

Our debt to private Japanese creditors became due today. Bresser said he is very sorry, but the Japanese will not see our money either.

[Begin Bresser recording] Unfortunately, there is nothing we can do even though we hold the Japanese bankers in great respect. The Japanese vice minister yesterday delivered an important speech, indirectly supporting the Brazilian position. I am certain that Japan will play an increasingly important role in the process of renegotiating our foreign debt, and that Japan will be our ally. [end recording]

Bresser today listened to speeches by President Reagan, the IMF director, and the World Bank president. He liked what he heard, but in fact nothing happened today to cause optimism regarding negotiations with our creditors. [end relay]

Minister Discusses Reasons for Resigning

PY291839 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Excerpts] Industry and Trade Minister Jose Hugo Castelo Branco has tendered his resignation to President Sarney. Castelo Branco said his party, the PMDB, will not hinder any reforms that become necessary. The minister added that now is the time to make President Sarney feel free to shuffle his cabinet. [passage omitted]

Castelo Branco is the first PMDB minister to resign after the breakup of the Democratic Alliance. He would not say whether or not President Sarney accepted his resignation. Castelo Branco only said his intention is to allow the president to conduct a profound and rational administrative reform, which Sarney has intended to conduct since he took office. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre, who was also at the Planalto Palace, would not comment on Castelo Branco's decision.

PMDB Ordered To Act 'En Masse'

PY300005 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2329 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Text] No PMDB minister will resign alone. PMDB President Ulysses Guimaraes said that the PMDB ministers will make a decision en masse regarding the Cabinet.

The instruction was given this afternoon at a meeting held at Guimaraes' residence. The meeting was attended by Labor Minister Almir Pazzianotto, Health Minister Roberto Santos, Urban Development Minister Deni Schwartz, and Social Security Minister Raphael de Almeida Magalhaes.

Colombia

Arias Carrizosa Calls Resignation 'Victory'

PA291606 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Text] Bogota—Former Justice Minister Jose Manuel Arias Carrizosa has said that his resignation is a victory for the opposition and for the government's enemies. He also said that he is not bitter about the outcome of his

case, because he accepts reality and the democratic rules of the game. He stressed that he was legally acquitted of charges relating to the alleged acquisition of a contraband Rolls Royce, but he lamented that his acquittal did not affect his standing in the political arena. In his first statements after his resignation, Arias Carrizosa emphasized that he was the victim of ideological struggle waged between the government and its enemies. He also stressed that his resignation signals a defeat for a healthy, democratic government, but that for those who, like him, are democratic to the core, a resignation under these circumstnces is worthy of admiration.

In his resignation letter to President Barco, Arias Carrizosa said that the proceedings against him were prompted by those who do not share his ideological position on law and order. He added that he is leaving without bitterness and with the belief that the contrived political debate about him demonstrated that his political and private life afforded no grounds for rendering him the object of any judicial action.

Venezuelan Border Problems Highlighted

PA251946 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] The parliamentary commission visiting the Venezuelan border has had additional problems today. Venezuela did not allow the commission to overfly Venezuelan territorial waters, only its continental territory. A similar situation took place yesterday on the Arauca River. We have a record of these irregularities; they have been taking place in the border areas and have not received sufficient attention from Bogota.

Arauca residents will suffer food shortages within a short time, because the license restriction imposed by the Venezuelan Government prevents Colombian trucks from coming from Cucuta. As is well-known, most of Arauca's residents purchase their food supplies on Saturdays in Amparo, Venezuela. From Cucuta, Colombian foods, especially vegetables, are transported on Venezuelan highways.

Adalberto Jaimes, president of the Arauca Chamber of Commerce, had the following to say:

[Begin recording] They have not renewed the vehicles' permits, which were renewed every 30 days in Caracas. The Venezuelan authorities believe this is the critical point for the Arauca Intendancy, because this area will be totally without supplies. For the past 20 years this highway has been used to transport 5,000 tons of food every month. [end recording]

This economic dependence can be overcome with the prompt implementation of a highway construction plan that will connect Arauca with Colombia's countryside. This is the conclusion reached by participants in the forum between the Senate commission and representatives from all the intendancy's establishments. The border has not been closed in Arauca, and Colombian authorities believe our relations with Venezuela's policemen are good. Nevertheless, two Venezuelan boats blocked the path of a Colombian boat carrying reporters and senators who were touring the Arauca River to investigate the border issue. Venezuelan police constantly repeat these actions because, according to Colombian military authorities, Venezuela views the presence of reporters, civilians, or military troops on the Colombian border as espionage.

ELN Claims Responsibility for Border Attack

PA282208 Paris AFP in Spanish 0104 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] San Cristobal, Venezuela, 27 Sep—the "Domingo Lain Saenz Front" of the Army of National Liberation (ELN) has claimed responsibility for Friday night's attack on a Venezuelan National Guard post in the border town of Urena, 900 km southwest of Caracas.

In a communique sent to Colombian newspapers in the town of Cucuta, the rebel commando unit claimed responsibility for the attack. It stated that the attack was a reprisal for "the injustices perpetrated by the Venezuelan National Guard against Colombian smugglers."

According to the "Domingo Lain Saenz Front," since August the Venezuelan National Guard has shot and injured 12 smugglers. The latest shooting occurred Friday morning.

Without specifically mentioning it, the ELN was commenting on the Venezuelan National Guard operation to stop the smuggling of Venezuelan-subsidized food into Colombia.

Reports from Cucuta indicated that Colombian Army units were intensifying operations to locate the subversives.

The Venezuelan National Guard is ready to repel any other incursion by a Colombian guerrilla commando unit.

The Colombian subversives crossed the Tachira River into their country after the attack.

Military spokesmen stated that the ELN did not achieve its objective of inflicting casualties on the Venezuelan soldiers. The guerrillas did not cause any damage to the garrison either. The garrison is 300 meters from the Simon Bolivar international bridge over the Tachira River.

Colombian authorities did not confirm reports alleging that the bodies of two guerrillas were found in their territory.

However, they reported finding a bazooka that the guerrillas used to fire two fragmentation grenades during the attack.

They also found pamphlets accusing the Venezuelan National Guard of harassing Colombians in Colombia.

FARC Commander Killed During Clash in Huila

PA221616 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 21 Sep 87

[Text] Neiva—The commander of the FARC's 2d Front and 11 other rebels of that same group were killed during clashes that have taken place in the past few hours at the border between Huila and Tolima Departments.

Javier Ramirez, commander of the FARC's 2d Front, was killed along with a leader of the 3d Front, whose alias was Pacho. The incident occurred on the road from (Campo Libre) to (Algecidas), in Huila Department.

FARC Rebels Attack Police Patrol, Kill 2

PA260427 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1230 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Two policemen, identified as Israel Amaya Sanchez and Omar Eduardo Jaramillo Lopez, were killed in San Carlos Jurisdiction, Antioquia Department, when a police patrol was attacked by FARC rebels. With the violent death of these two policemen, a total of 78 policemen have been killed in Antioquia so far this year.

Ecuador

President Febres Cordero Addresses Nation

PA250235 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 0145 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Speech to the nation by President Leon Febres Cordero; place not given—live, broadcast in progress]

[Text] ...that is an undeniable characteristic of my personality and my performance, the reality of events. The president, whom you elected, is here once again to demand your heroic and patriotic effort for the Republic's supreme benefit, despite legitimate differences in ideologies and beliefs. You have always offered your efforts in times of decision and I am sure that you will do so now, with new strength. Neither the most overwhelming problems nor the most bitter enemies will prevail now or in Ecuador's glorious future.

Since August 1984, an evil plan has been implemented with stubborn persistence to harm our democracy, to destroy worthy institutions that are pillars of the state, and by any means to prevent national reconstruction projects. You know very well that among the legitimate opposition, there are groups of extremists, and groups stupidly manipulated by extremists, who have trampled on the Constitution and the laws, have meddled in things that do not concern them, have distorted information, and have made unimaginable efforts to provoke, maintain, and stir up continuous conflicts and clashes that are very harmful for all citizens and for the country's development.

You Ecuadoreans are witnesses to the perverse crimes of terrorism, drug trafficking, and the tragedy caused by the treacherous killing of policemen; the heartbreaking suffering endured by their families and the unforgettable sorrow of their orphans as a result of inhumane and unjustifiable actions. You Ecuadoreans have witnessed coup d'etats against democracy by inflexible and obsessive conspirators. You have seen kidnappings that have destroyed the noble image of Ecuador and that have ended up putting the victims on trial instead of the perpetrators. You, compatriots, have seen excellent soldiers killed while they were carrying out their duties.

The first duty of the president of the Republic is to obey and enforce the Ecuadoran Constitution, which is the supreme law of the state, the essential guide for civilized living, and the fundamental guarantee for collective progress. I have obeyed, am obeying, and will obey and enforce the Constitution. You have proof of this. You have my word and my pledge. This proof has illuminated the most recent events. Debased by the most insulting incidents that have respected neither people nor the institutions, extremists and their clumsy supporters have shamelessly lied to the country, cowardly hiding behind immunity. They have said that human rights are not respected in Ecuador and, with evil intentions, have charged that the Interior Ministry—that is, its minister—and the police have violated human rights. This is a crass lie. Have we not truly defined human rights, above and beyond demagogic and hypocritical phrases, by constructing homes for the most needy, protecting the jobs and salaries of workers, and by making it possible for peasants to get a fair price for their products?

Didn't politicians from various countries—many of whom are extremists—come here to Quito, to this capital, just last week to talk right here in Ecuador about human rights safely protected by the absolute respect for these rights that we observe here? Don't the police defend the [word indistinct] rights of the people, of 10 million Ecuadoreans, against such crimes as terrorism, the kidnapping of innocent people, and brutal murders? Don't they defend the human rights and the chance for a healthy and worthy life for our children and grandchildren when they fight drug traffickers and their servile allies? Should any honorable person be surprised if the police, totally united and not violating their constitutional status but justifiably indignant over the constant lying and slander, speak to you, Ecuadoran citizens, to rightfully defend their reputation, explain their work, and bravely defend the truth?

What have they found? Support from citizens but also, in a somber contrast, a most outrageous barrage of words from extremists and their supporters and a threat of prosecution that was so bizarre that it provoked a

nationwide rebuff and resulted in an embarrassed retreat by those who announced it. In other words, while some are openly and covertly working for the release of terrorists and drug traffickers, for immunity for terrorists and drug traffickers so they can torture and victimize you, Ecuadoran society, attempts are being made to jail the policemen who risk their lives to defend Ecuador and its inhabitants. Untold privileges for criminals and outlaws and contemptuous punishment for the police.

This is, Ecuadoreans, the incredible (?intention), the cowardly effort by extremists and their servile leaders, many of whom are wealthy potentates, to avoid their responsibilities. Ecuadoran citizens, after your talent and intuition discovered their miserable objectives, they decided to impeach the government minister, head of the National Police.

Political trials are fundamental tools for supervision. I have used them in the past. I used them as a legislator and they must be used in the future to investigate and punish wicked wrongdoing, like the case that involved the police one unpleasant Christmas, a case involving stuffed dolls, as you remember.

Those who make a political trial a sewer of insults, a tool of revenge, to express hatred, to demonstrate a desire to commit a collective breach of trust, and to condemn the accused wound the constitutional system and discredit democracy itself. They are the ones who, with a grim look, alleged wisdom, and high-sounding words, dishonestly and hypocritically claim to defend the police.

Because of its utmost loyalty to the Constitution, the government will go to extremes. Minister Robles Plaza will go to the Congress. He feels that this trial only makes a mockery of justice.

The victim, a patriotic man, a man with a long career of community service, and a man of peace and wisdom, will emerge a winner. He will be remembered with honor, consideration, and appreciation while history, because of political decency, will make the effort, the great effort, to forget its detractors. However, let no one be deceived. If history's detractors condemn Minister Robles Plaza, they will have retaliated against the National Police that protects the country and its internal security, the National Police that even protects legislators and their families. If they condemn the government minister, they will have punished him for fighting terrorism and drug trafficking. However, the struggle against these evils will not stop. On the contrary, I guarantee that it will become stronger. This is demanded by civilization; your interest, Ecuadoran people; and democracy. This is a democracy that will not end. I have protected it against all storms. Democracy has survived and will survive and will become stronger in the struggle against its enemies who have not stopped plotting against it for a single day using the vilest weapons.

The final and inevitable triumph will be for democracy, liberty, truth, justice, and progress. That will happen thanks to the government's unyielding commitment, the noble constitutional spirit of the Armed Forces and the police, and the strong, active, and patriotic support from all Ecuadoreans. Thank you.

Parliamentarians Criticize Speech

PA261725 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 25 Sep 87

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[Text] Political tension is decreasing in Ecuador, but there is still expectancy over what might take place in the next few hours, because the government has accused the Ecuadoran Chamber of Representatives of favoring subversion with its attitude. The Chamber alleges it is completely legitimate to question the government minister.

Several assertions were made at the Chamber concerning recent statements by Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero over a radio and television network censuring the national legislature for having announced the political trial of Government Minister Luis Robles Plaza. Popular Democracy Deputy Rene Vargas Pazzos said:

[Begin recording] President Febres spent most of his time insulting and threatening us, but there was something positive in his speech. He promised the Ecuadoran people the democratic system will not be destroyed. This must be accepted not as a concession by him, but as the result of the opinion of the majority of the Ecuadoran people, including the Armed Forces. I have absolute faith in their continuous support for the democratic system. It cannot be otherwise, because the Armed Forces are fully identified with the country's democratic order.

In last night's address, President Febres basically insulted and threatened us. He said that we protect terrorists and drug traffickers and that we are attacking the national police. That is not true; it is a lie. I do not believe there is a single deputy of the Progressive Bloc who would disagree with me. [end recording]

Similarly, Ecuadorean Socialist Party Deputy Diego Delgado also gave his views on President Febres Cordero's speech over a radio and television network:

[Begin recording] He believes the famous statements, which he forced all the Ecuadoran people to listen to, will change the truth of the matter. The country knows the truth, and we will prove it during questioning that will begin on 29 September. We will show how many crimes are committed in Ecuador. It turns out that the government, which should give an account of its actions before the Chamber, now wants to try to distort reality. Reality is cases of torture, murders, disappearances, and other

events that constitute the government's policy of repression against the population, as do the armed groups or paramilitary bands operating in some Ecuadoran provinces. [end recording]

Finally, Left Broad Front Deputy Rene Moye Mosquera said:

[Begin recording] There is a permanent tendency to attack institutions and disturb the Ecuadoran people's civilized coexistence. That is what the government minister, who is responsible for the government's and the Executive Branch's overall policy, wants to [word indistinct]. That is why the president reacted so violently, as he did when discussing the country's economic policy. [end recording]

Those have been the opinions of various parliamentarians on President Febres Cordero's speech over a radio and television network, in which he criticized the impending political trial of Government and Police Minister Luis Robles Plaza by the national legislature.

Peru

Chamber Approves Nationalization of Banks

PA291622 Paris AFP in Spanish 1542 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Text] Lima, 29 Sep (AFP)—Luis Alva Castro, president of the Peruvian Chamber of Deputies, announced that at 1025 (1525 GMT) today the National Congress approved a presidential bill nationalizing 10 banks, 17 insurance companies, and 6 financial enterprises.

Amid verbal clashes and near fistfights, the majority in the lower chamber, belonging to the ruling American Popular Revolutionary Alliance, passed the bill the Senate had already approved last night. This comes 60 days after Social democratic President Alan Garcia submitted the bill.

Alva said that the deputies began their uninterrupted debate at midnight and that almost 11 hours they later agreed to pass the bill, which "will be immediately approved by President Garcia."

Attorney General's Office Issues Communique

PA300310 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 30 Sep 87

["Official" communique issued by the Peruvian Attorney General's Office in Lima on 29 September]

[Text] Because of statements made by some people and private institutions who claim a law of the republic is inapplicable, and making use of the powers granted under Appendix 1, Article 250 of the Peruvian Constitution, the office of the Attorney General believes it necessary and timely to announce the following:

1. A law must be obeyed as long as it has not been abolished. It goes into effect as of the 16th day after its publication, unless otherwise specified by the law itself—Article 195 of the Peruvian Constitution.

2. Even though a law may be openly and radically constitutional [as heard], good or bad, it must be complied with and the citizens have no other recourse other than to submit and obey, or to challenge it by means of constitutional right.

3. Noncompliance with the law because of any of its provisions, or because a branch of the state fails to apply the law due to alleged unconstitutionality, or because of the argument that the law is in fact null and void is tantamount to sowing disorder, to fanning anarchy, and to causing disorganization in the republic.

4. The Peruvian Constitution does not accept the theory of null and void laws. Only the Court of Guarantees is empowered to declare the unconstitutionality of a law, in full or in part. The verdict of a court declaring a law unconstitutional cannot take effect retroactively.

5. A country is doomed when its laws are not obeyed, because the law is the act which sets rights in motion; it is socially recognized and applied to groups of cases. The strange and absurd doctrine which incites disobedience is foreign to the democratic regime and deserves legal measures, preventinve as well as suppressive. The people's only safeguard is the law, and the law admits no middle ground. [Dated]Lima, 29 September 1987 [Signed]Dr Hugo Ernesto de Negri Cornejo, attorney general of the Republic and defender of the people

Police Raid 'Marxist' Lawyer's Association

PA282350 Paris AFP in Spanish 0224 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] Lima, 27 Sep (AFP)—Lawyer Roberto Alva Santibanez reported that police arrested dozens of people at the meeting of the Association of Peruvian Democratic Lawyers in central Lima.

Alva said that the association's members include Marxist lawyers who defend people accused of subversion and who report human rights violations.

Among those detained were the president of the association, Manuel Febres, and Manuel Cartagena and Martha Huatay—the latter two are the best known defenders of accused terrorists.

Alva said that some 600 members of the association were holding a "comradeship luncheon" near Lima's national stadium when police troops raided the site at 1700 (2200 GMT).

According to Alva, the meeting was held with police authorization. Most of the 600 attending the meeting were arrested by the troops and taken to police garrisons.

Recent Terrorist Actions Leave 5 Dead

PA300250 Paris AFP in Spanish 1432 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Text] Lima, 29 Sep (AFP)—The Civil Guard reported here today that five people were killed in terrorist actions in Ayacucho and Chimbote. In addition, it reported a foiled attempt on the life of Alfonso Barrantes, the main Peruvian Marxist leader and former mayor of Lima.

According to the authorities, on Saturday a Shining Path column intercepted a caravan of vehicles that was carrying peasants from Huanta to Lirio and killed four of them. This incident occurred in Ayacucho, approximately 500 km southeast of Lima.

According to the report, the victims were members of the peasant self-defense groups that are promoted by the Peruvian military to counter the increasing subversion in the area. The peasants were going to Lirio, in the Andean region, to sell their produce at a regional fair.

Eyewitnesses told police that the guerrillas singled out four of the peasants. The rebels held them and told the rest to continue their trip stating: "All these dirty dogs must die."

Police reported that a terrorist died and three others fled when they tried to dynamite a tourist hotel in Chimbote, 400 km north [of Lima—FBIS], following two attacks on a government office and a business.

The dead terrorist was said to be a member of the MRTA (Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement). Police disclosed that a woman suspect was arrested near the hotel carrying 3 kg of dynamite.

Regarding the assasination attempt on the former mayor of Lima and prominent leader of United Left (IU), the country's second largest political party, the authorities reported that three armed men were arrested early on Monday, and had been prowling around Barrantes' house.

These individuals were riding in an automobile and ignored an order to halt. However, they crashed into a power pole while they were being chased. The Antiterrorist Brigade reported that two submachine guns and three revolvers were found in their possession.

Barrantes is known for openly criticizing the Shining Path's violence. At a recent meeting with foreign correspondents, he said that he had been threatened with death and that his name is on the Maoist guerrilla movement's death list.

State of Emergency Declared in Apurimac

PA241706 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0200 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] The government today declared a state of emergency for 60 days in Abancay, Aymares, Antabamba, Andahuaylas, and Grau Provinces in Apurimac Department.

According to the announcement, the Interior Ministry will maintain order in Abancay Province, with the Armed Forces doing the same in the other four provinces.

Guyana

Opposition Party Calls For Ministry Probe

FL251355 Bridgetown CANA in English 2214 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Sept 24, CANA—The opposition Working Peoples Alliance (WPA) Wednesday called for a probe into what it said was an unauthorised G20 million dollar (1 Guy dol : 10 cents U.S.) overdraft at the Ministry of National Mobilisation.

WPA co-leader and Parliamentarian Eusi Kwayana told reporters the three-member commission of inquiry which recently recommended the establishment of an integrity commission here, should be recalled to conduct the probe.

He also suggested that the commission should enquire into the reasons for the non-publication of the reports on the 1980 and 1985 general elections and why to date the public has been told nothing about election expenses for these years.

A statement issued by the WPA at the press conference, said the controversial ministry incurred the overdraft without the necessary authority and in controvention of financial regulations.

The statement noted the transfer of one top officer and the deployment of other officials attached to the government department, and said this "major scandal" could not be answered by the transfer of officials.

The Ministry of National Mobilisation, formerly the Ministry of National Development, has been the focus of an ongoing controversy between the ruling Peoples National Congress (PNC) and several opposition parties for about a decade now with the opposition questioning the need for and relevance of such a ministry.

Key elements of the opposition criticism have been their contention that the ministry has been too closely linked with the operations of the ruling party and that there has been little or no accountability by the ministry for public funds put at its disposal.

The ministry is headed by Vice-President Ranji Chandisingh, general secretary and deputy leader of the PNC.

The WPA statement said the auditors report on the ministry for the years 1978-1980 must have gone unheeded by the authorities for, although vouchers for 1978 and 1979 were probably destroyed in a July 1979 fire that burnt the ministry's offices, no vouchers for the rest of 1979 and for 1980 were presented for audit.

The statement said further that in 1980 when general elections were held, the ministry had spent 14.7 million dollars which was 6.2 million dollars above the revised estimates, but there were no vouchers to cover this expenditure.

Another peculiarity of this ministry is that during the years 1978 to 1980, it suffered losses of cash and stores which were not reported officially as required by financial regulations, the WPA said.

The WPA, referring to a logical development of irregularities in the ministry, which have gone unchecked for years despite the comments of the auditors, said the recent incurring of the 20 million dollar overdraft without the necessary authority, is the strongest proof of the continuing instutionalisation of the PNC.

Kwayana told reporters he was of the view that among the irregularities at the ministry was a laundering arrangement involving money purportedly used to pay contributions to the national Insurance Scheme (NIS) on behalf of the ministry's workers.

He said the records show that whereas the average ministry pays the equivalent of about five per cent of its wages and salaries bill as contributions to the NIS, in 1983 the Ministry of National Development's NIS payments were in excess of its wages and salaries bill.

Kwayana, the WPA's lone representative in the National Assembly, said he has sought on previous occasions to have this matter clarified in Parliament, but to date, the responses have been unsatisfactory. He said he intends to write the Minister of Finance on the matter shortly.

The SPA spokesman said the latest controversy was a matter of great public concern, and that lending agencies should lend no money to a country that regards its public finances as a secret.

TUC Opposes Sale of Enterprises

FL292125 Bridgetown CANA in English 1922 GMT 29 Sep 87

[By Courtney Gibson]

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Sept 29, CANA—The Guyana Trades Union Congress (TUC) is opposed to the sale of unprofitable state enterprises.

The declaration by the umbrella organisation grouping 24 trade unions, which together represent about 75,000 workers, was one of significant decisions taken at its just ended 34th annual delegates conference.

A motion approved by the TUC said there was a "distinct possibility" that the Guyana Government would close some public sector enterprises and sell them to the private sector.

"This is bad advertisement of the government's ability to administer nationalised and other government enterprises successfully in the eyes of both national and international interest groups," the motion said.

Such a move would also represent "a negation of the stance of socialism taken broadly and definitively by both the governing party and the opposition which represent a large majority of the Guyanese people" and it will "certainly lead to further loss of competence and cash to the already severely hit economy," the TUC said.

The 250 delegates urged the government to leave no stone unturned in seeking to reverse the unproductive and uneconomic position in which some state enterprises find themselves.

It said that the administration should involve interest groups such as the TUC and its affiliates and political parties in the rehabilitation process.

The motion is seen as a direct response to the government's often repeated warning that state enterprises expected to make profits but which consistently fail to do so will be closed.

To date one such entity—Guyana Timbers Ltd—has been closed and tenders for its purchase are now being considered by the government.

According to sources close to the conference the most divisive issue during the five days of talks proved to be a motion tabled by the National Association of Agriculture, Commercial and Industrial Employees (NAACIE) calling for changes in the rules of the TUC to allow for increased representation for the numerically larger unions at conferences of the organisation.

The motion was, however, defeated by a margin of 138 to 87 votes with several delegates contending that some of the larger unions wished to monopolise the TUC to the detriment of the smaller unions.

The conference held at the Critchlow Labour College was described by Selwyn Felix, second vice president, as being "by and large, a successful conference."

He said the conference was very concerned about Guyana's economic circumstances including the problem of the country's debts. And, in this regard, the conference was "almost at one" that the debt should be

paid but emphasised that every effort should be made to support efforts of Third World countries to have their debts rescheduled and to impress upon the developed countries the need for finding mechanisms for easing the pressure on the working class peoples of developing countries.

More than 60 motions were approved by the conference. Some dealt with the internal affairs of the TUC but the majority sought to effect socio-economic improvements for Guyanese workers.

One motion called for workers to become more actively involved in the management of enterprises to ensure the success of the national programme for economic recovery and growth and directed that the TUC Executive Council "define a policy on workers control in the context of present-day Guyana."

Another motion called on the Executive Council to hold discussions with the government on the need for upgrading the quality of the country's social services including education, health, electricity, housing and potable water and on a strategy for improving the availability and distribution of supplies of basic items.

The delegates also expressed their concern about the unemployment situation in the country and called on the government to implement an eight-point plan "to arrest the situation."

The plan they said should provide for more effective land reform measures, better pricing policies in the agriculture sector, the restructuring of primary and secondary school curricula to shape the necessary attitudes and provide the relevant skills being demanded by the economy, for the placing of greater emphasis on the acquisition of scientific, technical and technological skills, and for the further diversification of agriculture and the creation of agro-based industries.

In addition, there should be discussions between the TUC and the government on investment opportunities and the creation of employment on a short term, medium term, and long term basis and more effective measures should be taken to ultimately eliminate the thriving underground economy.

The delegates noted that the devaluation of the Guyana dollar earlier this year and the removal of subsidies and other similar measures by the government have impacted negatively upon the living standards of the working people—"especially those of the lower income groups"—and advocated that in order to deal with this problem, there should be indexation of wages and the implementation of a more viable pricing system.

The conference also expressed concern about the standard of health care in the country and called for a public inquiry into the operations of all private and public hospitals in the country.

The delegates also passed motions which dealt with matters such as problems with the availability of petroleum products, upgrading transportation facilities and housing for workers.

Suriname

Jungle Massacre Leaves At Least 40 Dead

PA291253 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0911 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Text] The Hague, 29 Sep (DPA)—Doctors who are members of the French humanitarian organization "Aide Medicale Internationale," AMI, today reported a massacre in a village located in the Surinamese jungle, in which 40 people were killed.

Citing AMI doctors, Rotterdam's daily *Algemeen Dagblad* reported that on 11 September, Surinamese Government troops pursuing members of a rebel commando attacked and completely destroyed the village of Pokiegron, located in the jungle.

The massacre left at least 40 dead, including many children. The rebels pursued by the soldiers were under the command of Ronnie Brunswijk, *Algemeen Dagblad* reported.

According to reports from The Netherlands, the number of Surinamese refugees fleeing to neighboring French Guiana has increased considerably. Among the new refugees are witnesses of the Pokiegron massacre who had managed to escape.

U.S., Other Attaches Visit War Zone

FL292050 Parmaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Text] Three top foreign military officers on Saturday visited the border town of Albina in the east of Suriname. They wanted to personally witness the situation in the war stricken area.

The military attaches of the Brazilian, Venezuelan, and American Embassies in Suriname were accompanied by top officers of the National Army. The Venezuelan colonel said afterward that he was [word indistinct] by the havoc while his American colleague said he was not surprised since one can expect such destruction in war situations. The Brazilian officer pointed to the stagnation which the fighting has caused in the development of the country.

All three attaches expressed the hope that the solution will soon be found on the fighting which has been going on for more than a year now.